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## As an Official Journal

THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST is supplied regularly to every member of the following Societies:—

Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland.  
 South African Pharmaceutical Association.  
 Pharmaceutical Society of Natal.  
 Central Pharmaceutical Association of N.Z.  
 Otago Pharmaceutical Association.  
 Pharmaceutical Society of Queensland.  
 Pharmaceutical Society of South Australia.  
 Pharmaceutical Society of Western Australia.

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## COLONIAL ISSUE.

THE publisher of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST proposes to specially address on April 25 all business houses connected with the drug-trade in Australasia, India, Ceylon, Straits Settlements, South Africa, West Indies, China, Japan, and many other places abroad. In view of the remarkable growth of colonial trade, which is apparent at the present time, full advantage of this means for improving their export-business should be taken by all firms who do business with the drug-trade.

## Summary.

WE report about a dozen contracts which have been settled since our last issue (p. 508).

THIS issue contains, on p. 520, brief notes regarding the wills of some deceased chemists.

QUITE a number of English chemists have secured Parish Council honours, some of them getting to the top of the poll (p. 509).

THE Proprietary Articles Trade Association held a meeting at Brixton this week, and enrolled twenty-five more adherents (p. 528).

A NUMBER of useful formulae for specialities are given on p. 527, and there are many more in our Correspondence section (p. 535).

A PARIS subscriber gives particulars of an anti-cutting experiment being tried in Paris in regard to a medicinal wine (p. 534).

As a remedy for cutting a correspondent suggests the establishment by retail buyers of a wholesale drug-house (p. 535).

SIR J. BLUNDELL MAPLE advances in our Correspondence columns some arguments against the Shops (Early-closing) Bill (p. 534).

SOME remarks on the Preliminary examination and on the Minor, as conducted in London, as arising from Dr. Thomas Stevenson's report, are given on p. 523.

COUNT MATTEI, whose alleged cure for cancer enjoyed some notoriety in England a few years ago, died this week. We give a sketch of his career on p. 524.

SOME views in regard to the Cape drug-trade, and South Africa as a residence, were laid before the Plymouth Chemists' Association by Mr. R. D. Doble (p. 516).

WESTERN AUSTRALIA has finally decided to accept other Australian diplomas, and the British pharmaceutical certificates as equivalent to its own examination (p. 538).

CHEMISTS' assistants show up rather badly this week. One gets fined for ill-treating his wife, another figures in an affiliation case, and one has committed suicide (p. 509).

A PIMLICO man has committed suicide by taking 5s. worth of cocaine, procured at the Civil Service Supply Association. The Coroner commented upon the loose system of selling the drug (p. 510).

MR. HERTZ has been talking to us about the drug-trade in Cairo, and his observations are worth the attention of British traders. Interesting illustrations accompany the interview (p. 514).

It appears, from a report sent by our Paris correspondent, that the mortality from hydrophobia amongst Egyptian patients last year was 0.13 per cent. The number of persons treated was 1,523 (p. 511).

THE Yorkshire Relish case, in which judgment was given by the Court of Appeal last week, has some interesting bearings on proprietary titles as affecting chemists' goods, which we point out in an article on p. 522.

A CHEMIST holding a wine-licence sold a bottle of brandy. He was prosecuted by the Board of Inland Revenue and fined, and it was stated on behalf of the Inland Revenue that this would involve the forfeiture of the licence (p. 518).

ACETIC acid is not white-wine vinegar. This view is upheld at the Staffordshire Quarter Sessions on an appeal by Messrs. Boots (Limited), but the Court modified the penalties imposed by the Potteries Stipendiary, in order to mark their opinion that the sale by Messrs. Boots was not of a fraudulent character (p. 518).

THE Irish Pharmaceutical Council have again discussed the advisability of admitting apprentices of limited companies to the Licence examination, a motion to rescind the previous resolution having been brought forward by Mr. Conyngham. It was pointed out that the only legal way to admit the young men would be to rescind the regulation, so the motion was withdrawn (p. 513).





## English News

*The Editor is obliged to correspondents who send local newspapers containing items of interest to the trade. He will be further obliged if such paragraphs be marked in all cases.*

### Coroner Luxmoore Drew on Chemists Prescribing.

On March 27, at the Hammersmith Coroner's Court, Mr. Luxmoore Drew held an inquest respecting the death of a child 18 days old. The mother said the child had a cold and she took it to a chemist, who advised her to rub its chest with camphorated oils and give it a dose of castor oil. It got better, but later the same night it had a strong convulsive fit, and died almost immediately. John Beaddie, chemist's assistant, of 155 King's Street, said he remembered the mother coming and asking for medicine. He declined and asked her to go for a doctor. She seemed dissatisfied, and he then told the mother she might rub the chest with camphorated oils and give it castor oil.

Then you prescribed for it?—Yes, as far as it goes. You say the child had a cold?—Yes. What means have you had of knowing the treatment of disease?—From my twenty-five years' experience. You have only had the experience of a chemist's shop?—Yes. Then you know nothing about it. You are not allowed under the Pharmaceutical Act to prescribe, but only to dispense.

Dr. B. R. Martin said he was called in after death. He had made an autopsy, which revealed no signs of a cold. All the organs were healthy except the brain, which was slightly congested. Death was due to asphyxia from convulsions. Had he seen the child earlier he might possibly have done something for it. The treatment given by the chemist's assistant did neither good nor harm.

The Coroner (to Mr. Beaddie): You see your diagnosis was incorrect, which shows that you are not competent to undertake the treatment of disease. The jury returned a verdict in accordance with the medical evidence.

### A Successful Smoker.

The Midland Chemists' Assistants' Association had the most successful smoking-concert of the season on Wednesday evening, April 1. The best items on an excellent programme were those of Mr. Aston, who gave a realistic sketch on the "Bones" and a solo upon a single-stringed broomstick and a cigar-box, and the recitations and sketch of Messrs. Martin and Firkin met with rounds of applause. Excellent songs were rendered by Messrs. Firth, Judd, Cornish, Wilson, Rushton, Aston, and Jones.

### Crossing the Sea.

Our Jersey correspondent hears that Boots (Limited) have purchased a centrally-situated property for over 1,000*l.*, and will shortly open branch drug-stores there.

### Weed-killer for Cider.

A mason named Turner died at Stockland, near Axminster, last week. Becoming thirsty he drank from a jar what he supposed to be cider. At the inquest a verdict was returned that he died through accidentally drinking weed-killer from a stone jar in mistake for cider. The jar was labelled "Poison."

### Technical Chemistry.

In addition to the papers announced to-day under "Next Week," the London Section of the Society of Chemical Industry have arranged for the following:—On May 4: (1) "Chromatic Photography," by Mr. E. J. Wall; (2) "Artificial Silk," by Messrs. Cross and Bevan; and on June 1: (1) "Japanese Metallurgy—Part I. Gold and Silver and their Alloys," by Mr. W. Gowland, F.I.C., F.C.S., A.R.S.M., late of the Imperial Japanese Mint; (2) "The Electro deposition of Zinc," by Mr. Sherard Cowper Coles.

### The Sheffield Analyst.

Mr. A. H. Allen, F.I.C., has been reappointed to the position of public analyst for Sheffield at a salary of 100*l.*, for which sum he undertakes to analyse 150 samples. All samples in excess of that number are paid for at the rate of 10*s.* 6*d.* per sample. Last year the number of samples analysed was 311.

### A Chemist's Free Voyage.

John Mitchell, chemist, was brought up at the Thames Police-court on March 31 on remand, charged with having defrauded Messrs. Donald Currie & Co. of the fare from Madeira to London. The defendant got on board the *Harwarden Castle* at Madeira, and when asked for his ticket admitted that he had not got one and had no money. Owing to the rambling statement made by the defendant when last before the Court, Mr. Mead had him remanded in order that he might be medically examined. Mr. F. Deakin, who prosecuted on behalf of Messrs. Donald Currie & Co., now informed the Magistrate that inquiries had been made into the case, and there was no doubt that the defendant was not right in his head. He had been incarcerated in two asylums, and about a month ago disappeared from his home. His brother was now present and was willing to take him back to Inverness. In reply to the Magistrate, Mr. Deakin said the company had been settled with. The defendant, on being asked if he would go with his brother, said he supposed his parents were responsible for him, and they could shoot him if they liked. Mr. Mead accepted the brother's recognisance to produce him if called upon.

### Drug-contracts.

The following tenders have been accepted:—

Bolton Board of Guardians.—Mr. J. E. Sheppard, of Deansgate, for the supply of carbolic and soft soap.

Dover Board of Guardians.—Mr. A. L. Thompson, for the supply of chemicals to the workhouse, at 12½ per cent. below schedule prices.

Gravesend Corporation.—Mr. John H. Morris, chemist, Milton Road, Gravesend, for the supply of disinfectants.

Hampstead.—Messrs. Allen & Hanburys' tender for drugs has been accepted, and Mr. Stamp, High Street, Hampstead, has been appointed the chemist to supply the drugs required at short notice.

Kingsclere Union.—Mr. Sidery, for the supply of linseed-meal, at 3*d.* per lb.; and Mr. Parker, for arrowroot, at 7*d.* per lb.

Lewisham Board of Guardians.—Messrs. Willows, Francis & Butler, of Holborn, for drugs; and Messrs. S. Maw, Son & Thompson, of Aldersgate Street, E.C., for surgical appliances.

Romney Board of Guardians.—Mr. Thomas Gravett, for the supply of linseed, at 2*d.* per lb.; arrowroot (hest), at 1*s.* per lb.

Wolverhampton Board of Guardians.—P. Harris & Co. (Limited), for the supply of drugs to the workhouse for the ensuing half-year, the amount being 119*l.* 10*s.* 11*d.*; Mr. A. E. Beresford, for the supply of carbolic soap, at 17*s.* 3*d.* per cwt., and soft soap, at 7*s.* 6*d.* per 64 lbs.

The Stores Committee of the London County Council have given instructions for the annual tenders for supply of stores to be issued. Amongst these are those for oils and disinfectants. The disinfectants usually contained in the schedules are carbolic acid (90 per cent.), carbolic powder (15 per cent. on a siliceous base), charcoal, chloride of lime, permanganates of soda and potash, Sanitas, and Tuson's fluid. The oils include olive, sperm, neatfoot, rapa, castor, machinery, lard, and linseed.

The consideration of the tenders for drugs, which had been adjourned in consequence of only one tender having been sent in at the proper time, came before the Dartford Board of Guardians on April 2. The Clerk said that tenders were invited for (1) supplying dispensing-drugs at one sum, and (2) at per 8-oz bottle of mixture. Mr. Tucker, chemist and druggist, of Dartford, tendered at 54*d.* as an inclusive sum, or per 8 oz. bottle of mixture 3½*d.*; Mr. James Cann



chemist and druggist, Dartford, 56 $\frac{1}{2}$ ., or 4d. per bottle; and Mr. Goff, chemist and druggist, of High Street, Dartford, at 48 $\frac{1}{2}$ ., or 3d. per bottle. Mr. Goff's tender at 3d. per bottle was accepted.

#### Parish Councils.

The following chemists have been elected to serve on parish councils:—

Mr. G. Brigham, chemist and druggist, Pocklington.  
Mr. R. W. Broomfield, chemist and druggist, St. Bees.  
Mr. H. B. Palmer, chemist and druggist, Wingham, near Canterbury.

Mr. J. Horrell, pharmaceutical chemist, Broadstairs.  
Mr. W. S. Adamson, chemist and druggist, Bnrford, Oxon.  
Mr. Chas. Whitcombe, chemist and druggist, Petworth (re-elected).

Mr. J. E. Toone, pharmaceutical chemist, Warminster (re-elected).

Mr. Jas. Hughes, chemist and druggist, Bognor (re-elected to the Urban District Council).

Mr. J. Gant, chemist and druggist, Raunds, headed the poll with 332 votes.

Mr. John Clay, chemical-manufacturer, Hebden Bridge.

Mr. J. E. Houlst, chemist and druggist, Cheadle (re-elected at the head of the poll with 399 votes).

Mr. H. S. Heath, chemist and druggist, St. Mary Cray.

Mr. R. D. Doble, chemist (re-elected on the Tavistock District Council).

Mr. J. Lofthouse, chemist, Fleetwood (elected at the top of the poll for the Urban Council).

Mr. F. Stedman, chemist and druggist, Ashford, has been appointed overseer of the parish by the Urban District Council.

Mr. J. W. Fish, drug-dealer, has been elected one of the representatives of West Ward on Dankinfield Parish Council.

#### Suicide of a Chemist's Assistant.

Shortly after 2 o'clock on Saturday last a chemist's assistant, named Stebbings, committed suicide by shooting himself on the Castle Hill, Norwich. He was standing near the entrance to the western gate of the Castle Museum, a spot which he had probably chosen because of its seclusion, when a passer-by saw him put a revolver to his mouth and heard him fire. Information was at once given to a policeman, and aid was also summoned from the Museum; but death had been apparently instantaneous. Stebbings was in the employ of Mr. Robinson, a chemist, of Attleborough, and was a native of Lowestoft, his father being a dispenser in that town. Five chambers of the revolver he had with him were found loaded. No money was found in his pockets, and the only property about him of any value was a gold watch and chain. At the inquest, held on Tuesday, evidence was given that the deceased had been a heavy drinker, and a doctor said he believed he had been suffering from brain-disease. The jury found that the deceased committed suicide by shooting himself while in an unsound state of mind.

#### Mellin's Art Competition.

The proprietor of Mellin's Food is promoting a new art competition for which prizes of the value of 1,000 $\frac{1}{2}$  are to be awarded. The competition is to be divided into oil and water colour, black and white, and photography sections. Special competitions are arranged for children. Eminent artists have agreed to act as judges, and an exhibition of the pictures is to be organised for January next.

#### Affiliation Case.

At the Margate Police Court, on Tuesday, Percy Wilfred Prndie, a chemist's assistant, of 5 Sun Street, Finsbury, London, was summoned by Edith Kate Bristowe, of Westgate-on-Sea, Thanet, to show cause why an order should not be made upon him to contribute towards the child of which he was stated by the complainant to be the putative father. Mr. Pittman who appeared in support of the summons, said the complainant, who came of good family, was seduced by the defendant on the Underground Railway. The result of the intimacy was the birth of a child, which lived only sixteen weeks, and complainant, who was socially ruined, now sought to recover the expenses of the confinement, and the cost of maintenance of the child during the time it lived. Letters were put in written by the defendant to the com-

plainant, in which the parentage was not disputed, and making offers, which, however, were not carried out. Mr. Pittman stated that the defendant had been proceeded against for the seduction, and a sum of 150 $\frac{1}{2}$  was awarded, but not a penny had been paid. The Magistrates made an order for defendant to pay 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ ., the confinement expenses; 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ ., funeral expenses; 2 $\frac{1}{2}$  s., solicitors' fees; and 16s. 6d., court fees—in all 9 $\frac{1}{2}$  s. 18s. 6d.

#### Sale of Laudanum.

A married woman, named Wood, entered the shop of Mr. A. W. Morgan, chemist, Railway Street, Chatham, and asked for some laudanum. She told him it was for the toothache, and he served her with a pennyworth. A few minutes later she was brought back to the shop by a policeman, who said the woman had drunk the contents of the bottle. At the police court, on March 31, the woman was charged with attempted suicide, and the police officer stated that when he arrested her the woman told him that she intended to poison herself, and she would have taken six-pennyworth, only she could not get it. She added that she went to the shop of Mr. Turtle, chemist, but he would not serve her. She was committed for trial.

#### Laudanum in a Mixture.

At an inquest held at Worthing, on April 2, respecting the death of an old gentleman named Benjamin Evans, Mr. Herbert Wyke Tupman, chemist and druggist, of Worthing, said the prescription produced was made up by him on March 24. It contained 4 dr. of tincture of opium in 8 oz. Mr. J. D. S. Nodes, medical practitioner, Worthing, deposed to attending the deceased for gall-stones. He gave deceased the prescription in question. He did not caution him or his wife as to the possible consequences of his taking an overdose in so many words, but he told them at every visit not to take more than he had directed. In his opinion death was due to the overdose of opium acting on a diseased heart and kidneys. Replying to the foreman, the witness said it was not usual to put a distinctive poison-label on the bottle when opium was mixed with water and other ingredients. A verdict of suicide whilst temporarily of unsound mind was returned, deceased having left a note stating that he could not bear the pain any longer.

#### Collecting Pennyworths of Laudanum.

Ellen Tillotson, wife of an engine-fitter, at Sheffield, has preferred to die rather than live a paralytic. She was a strong healthy woman until a few months ago, when she lost the use of one side by paralysis. On Saturday morning she sent her little daughter to different shops for pennyworths of laudanum and instructed her to pour all into one bottle. Later in the day she fell asleep, and died next morning. The laudanum-bottle was found empty. At the inquest on Wednesday, the Coroner said no doubt deceased had suffered terribly, and purposed taking her life. A verdict of suicide while insane was returned.

#### A Lunatic with Laudanum.

A man entered the shop of Mr. Tilly, chemist, of Riverhead, Sevenoaks, and asked for 6 oz. of laudanum, stating that he must die by 12 o'clock. He had 1 oz. of the drug in his possession, and the chemist, thinking he ought to be watched, gave information to the police. Inquiries were made which showed that the man, whose name was Miller, had recently been discharged from Chatham Asylum, and he was brought before the Sevenoaks Bench charged with being a wandering lunatic. An order was made for his removal to the Union in order that he might be kept under observation.

#### Wine-licences

have been granted to Messrs. Lewis & Burrows, chemists and druggists, of Cazenove Road, Stoke Newington, and to Mr. H. S. Cooper, chemist and druggist, of Kingston Hill, Surrey.

#### Inquest on a Chemist's Traveller.

A chemist's traveller named Peter Dalton, who lived in Howard Street, Sheffield, went North a week ago on business. He was taken ill at Newcastle on Sunday, and removed to the infirmary, suffering, it was supposed, from an overdose of



chloral, which he was in the habit of taking to induce sleep. There he died. The medical testimony inclined to some other cause of death, and the inquest has been adjourned for a *post-mortem* examination.

#### Suicide with Cocaine.

Mr. Troutbeck, one of the metropolitan coroners, held an inquest on Wednesday regarding the death of Reginald Norman (31), of no occupation, who committed suicide at 37 Gloucester Street, Piccadilly, by swallowing a quantity of cocaine. Mr. Oswald Norman, barrister, brother of deceased, stated that he had been despondent and intemperate of late. Witness had been summoned from Bournemouth on Thursday evening, April 2, his brother having died that morning. Two letters were produced which showed that he intended to commit suicide. Miss Alice Susannah Dunn stated that deceased had resided with her for several months at 37 Gloucester Street, and that he had on one occasion threatened to throw himself out of the window if she left him. She was accustomed to use cocaine for toothache and neuralgia, and had recently obtained five shillings' worth at the Civil Service Stores in Bedford Street. On April 1 she missed the bottle, and asked Mr. Norman if he had taken it. He denied having done so, but she subsequently found that he had secreted it between the mattress of his bed. At half-past one on the morning of April 2 she was called to his room, where he admitted that he had deceived her as to the cocaine, and that he had swallowed it. She sent immediately for Dr. Crane, of Warwick Square, who arrived promptly, but death took place within an hour. Miss Elsie Hood, niece of the last witness, stated that she was sixteen years of age, and that she had obtained the cocaine at the stores. Dr. Crane said cocaine was a dangerous poison, and ought not to be administered except under medical supervision. The Coroner commented upon the loose system which enabled a girl of sixteen to procure five shillings' worth of such a deadly drug, and the jury returned a verdict of suicide while temporarily insane.

#### Chemist's Assistant Ill-treats his Wife.

At the Norwich Police Court, on March 28, Charles Edwin Woodcock, druggist's assistant, was summoned for persistent cruelty to his wife, causing her to live apart. She now asked for a maintenance order under the Summary Jurisdiction (Married Women) Act. Mr. E. Reeve, who appeared for the applicant, said she was married to defendant at Norwich in 1882. Since then he had continually ill-treated her with blows from his fists and stick. He had also kicked her and blacked her eyes. Bruises on her face were caused by defendant last Saturday. At Christmas he kicked her in the lower part of the body, bruising her, and also punched her face. She had to go to her sister-in-law's, Mrs. Woodcock, chemist, Magdalen Street, to have her face attended to. On other dates he had knocked her head against the wall and struck her. She had left him in consequence of his cruelty. He had also threatened her life. He was in receipt of 30s. a week, which was paid him out of a chemist's business which his brother, Mr. Page Woodcock, was carrying on at Lincoln. Up till June in last year he was paid 180l. a year, but that was when he worked. Corroborative evidence was given, and defendant said the whole affair was a parcel of lies. They were trying to ruin him. He did not wish to make a statement, for if he did he might expose his wife's family. The Magistrates ordered him to pay his wife 10s. a week, they to live apart. He had also to pay the costs, 1l. 9s.

**FRENCH SAVANTS.**—The French Association for the Advancement of Science, which is the French equivalent of the British Association, held its annual Congress during the past week (commencing April 1) at Tunis, some four hundred guests being present. These meetings are usually held in the autumn, but the spring was chosen for the African gathering. Last Tuesday (April 7) the thirty-fifth Congress of Learned Societies was inaugurated in the Sorbonne, under the presidency of M. Schefer, member of the Institute of France. Nearly three hundred societies of Paris and the provinces were represented. After an opening address by M. Schefer, in the name of the Minister of Public Instruction, the delegates divided themselves into various groups.



# Irish News

*The Editor is obliged to correspondents who send local newspapers containing items of interest to the trade. He will be further obliged if such paragraphs be marked in all cases.*

#### What was the Powder?

Last week, at Cork, a man named McCarthy, who suffered from insomnia, decided to take a sleeping-draught, which was obtained for him at Dr. Scannell's Medical Hall. Soon after he had swallowed the draught it became apparent that something was wrong. A doctor who was summoned found that the man was suffering from morphia poisoning, and was beyond all medical skill. An inquest was held. Dr. Scannell, L.A.H., who was cautioned before giving evidence, said the deceased was in the habit of getting sleeping-powders from his manager, Mr. Wall. On the night in question Mr. Wall was out, and he himself sold the compound from a verbal description by the daughter of deceased of the kind usually supplied. He declined to tell what he gave her or whether he weighed it, but he gave her what she wanted. He admitted he gave no instructions with the medicine. It was not he who prescribed it; it was herself. The Coroner said there was no evidence of criminal negligence or of misadventure, and a verdict of death from narcotic poisoning was returned.

#### Athy Guardians and the Pharmacopœia.

The Local Government Board has surcharged the Guardians of the Athy Union in the sum of 39l., in respect of excess payments for medicines ordered which are not mentioned in the British Pharmacopœia. The auditor suggested that the officials responsible for the illegal outlay should recoup the surcharged Guardians, and this suggestion was agreed to by the officers concerned.

#### The Science of Tendering.

Dr. Watson reported to the Limavady Board of Guardians last week that he had examined the tenders for drugs and medicines, which had been referred to him, but he was sorry he was unable to arrive at a decision in the matter. Tendering for medicines had been reduced to such a science that it was impossible to say which tender was the cheapest, unless he had the requisitions before him from the different dispensaries. It would be more satisfactory if the Local Government Board would provide some dépôt in Dublin from which all dispensaries could be supplied. At present a doctor could not have confidence in the medicines supplied. He believed that for about 2,000l. the Local Government Board could provide a house and pay one good buyer, and then the medical officers throughout the Unions in Ireland would have some confidence in the quality of the medicines they were prescribing. Contractors all tried to find out what articles were likely to be most used, and for these a good price was charged. After some discussion, the tender of Mr. Galbraith, pharmaceutical chemist, Londonderry, was accepted.

#### Fire.

Messrs. Maxwell, Greer & Co.'s newly-built chemical and drug establishment, Foyle Street, Londonderry, has been damaged by a fire, which broke out in the delivery-department on Sunday evening. Only recently the entire place was destroyed by fire.

#### The Cork Chemical and Drug Company.

The "letters of regret" in connection with the applications for shares in the Cork Chemical and Drug Company (Limited) were posted last week to the number of 800. The "letters of allotment" exceed 600.

#### Personal.

Dr. J. E. Kenny, apothecary, Dublin, has retired from the parliamentary representation of the College Green division.



of the City. His reason is that his duties as coroner occupy his time.

Mr. F. Froedman, who was for twenty-nine years with Messrs. Bewley & Draper (Limited), has started business on his own account, under the title Froedman & Yeates, at 41 Drury Street, Dublin, as a manufacturer of British wines and cordials.



## Scotch News

*The Editor is obliged to correspondents who send local newspapers containing items of interest to the trade. He will be further obliged if such paragraphs be marked in all cases.*

### Pharmacy Athletic Club—Golfing Section.

Mr. W. M. Manson was the winner of the monthly golfing competition for the Dick Handicap Challenge Medal in the Edinburgh Pharmacy Athletic Club at the March contest.

Messrs. H. D. Alexander and Geo. Lunan met Messrs. Geo. Robertson and Jas. Stott in the final round in the T. & H. Smith Challenge Trophy Competition, on April 3, at the Braids. After a close game, Messrs. Alexander and Lunan won by 2 up and 1 to go.

### Glasgow Parish Medicines.

At the meeting of the Glasgow City Parish Council on Tuesday, April 7, the Medical Committee reported having made the following purchases:—From Messrs. W. & R. Hatrick & Co., 25 galls cod-liver oil at 18s. per 25 galls. net; and from the Glasgow Apothecaries' Company, 10 galls. olive oil at 4s. 6d. per gall. net, and 150 lbs. Gamgee tissue at 1s. 1½d. per lb. net. A return was submitted to the meeting showing that during the month 7,246 prescriptions had been made up in the Parliamentary Road dispensary for the indoor poor, and 698 for outdoor poor, and that the outdoor poor had 187 prescriptions made up in the following private dispensaries:—Messrs. J. & R. Rodman, 78; Mr. D. P. Walker, 93; and the Glasgow Apothecaries' Company, 16. The minutes of the Medical Committee further bore that at the monthly meeting of the committee, Mr. J. Anderson Russell (who is Secretary to the Glasgow Pharmaceutical Association) stated that he observed from the prescriptions that one of the outdoor medical staff had again prescribed a proprietary cod-liver-oil cream, notwithstanding the arrangement come to in December last to discontinue the prescribing of proprietary medicines. The Inspector of Poor was instructed by the committee to write the doctor asking for an explanation. At the same meeting of the Medical Committee Dr. McLaughlin moved that the resolution come to by the Council in July last, as to medicines being dispensed by qualified chemists only, be rescinded. The "previous question" was carried by 8 to 4.

### Society of Chemical Industry.

At the annual business meeting of the Scottish Section, held in Glasgow on Tuesday, the Secretary reported that the membership is 293, as against 290 last year, but the average attendance has fallen from 25, with a minimum of 12, last year to 17, with a minimum of 4, this year. Following this report, Mr. James Hendrick, B.Sc., F.I.C., read a paper on "Experiments with Bordeaux Mixture," the well-known mixture of sulphate of copper and milk of lime, about which a great deal was published in this journal ten years ago. It is used as a fungicide in agriculture and viticulture. Mr. Hendrick's experiments were chiefly in regard to the use of the mixture for preventing potato-disease, they being made in connection with the agricultural department of the Glasgow and West of Scotland Technical College, and, like others previously conducted in Scotland, gave unsatisfactory results. A discussion on the standard of flash-point for mineral oil followed, in which it was pointed out that lamp accidents are never heard of in Scotland, as

Scottish oil is used by the people. A resolution was passed, stating that, in the opinion of the meeting, burning-oil of 73° flash-point was dangerous, and that the flash-point ought to be raised to 100° F., Abel test, in view of public safety.

### Poisonous Water.

On Tuesday the Inverness County Council had two reports under consideration with reference to an alleged fatal poisoning case at Kiltarlty, on February 21, which were reported at the time it happened. Three young children took ill one after the other with symptoms of having taken something poisonous, and one of them died. As the result of a *post mortem* examination it was declared that poison was the cause of death, and the Crown analysis of the viscera and specimens of the water from the sunk well, showed that it was abundantly manifest that the water was grossly polluted and unfit for domestic purposes. The Procurator-Fiscal, therefore, on instructions from Crown counsel, called on the sanitary authority to remove this danger. The medical officer of the Council, however, being dissatisfied with the Crown analysis on the ground of its vagueness and the want of information as to the nature of the poison supposed to have suddenly polluted the well, which has been used for generations with no bad results, obtained an independent analysis of samples of the water by Mr. Falconer King, Edinburgh, who reported that the water was of good quality and quite suitable for household use!

## French News.

*(From our Paris Correspondent.)*

**PERFUMERY TRADE-MARKS.**—MM. L. T. Piver & Co., the well-known Paris perfumers, have obtained injunctions during the past month against a firm called David & Co., who had used wrappers for soaps and advertising matter similar to Piver's; the names of the specialities themselves had not been imitated.

**RADAM'S MICROBE-KILLER**, which obtained a passing notoriety a few weeks ago in Paris through the proprietors of the shop opened for its sale on the Boulevard Poissonnière being prosecuted for illegal practice of pharmacy and medicine, continues to be offered to the public as a panacea for all maladies. The infringement of the law is now avoided by a French medical man being in charge of the shop as manager.

**STUDENTS AND CUTTING.**—Since their onslaught on the "cutting" pharmacy in the Rue Monge last December the Paris pharmacy students have not made themselves conspicuous by any fresh exploits, but their energy is evidently only resting. A few days ago, while at the Superior School of Pharmacy, a representative of the *C. & D.* noticed that a "cutter's" preface to a price-list had been securely stuck on a wall. Those of the students with literary talent have enriched the wording of the preface with various comments and expletives in both ink and pencil.

**THE PASTEUR INSTITUTE** has just issued its report for 1895. It appears that of 1,523 persons treated by the Pasteurian method against hydrophobia, five died from hydrophobia. Of three of these the first symptoms were manifested within less than fifteen days after the last inoculation, while a patient who was seized with the disease during the treatment and died is omitted from the list. In their official statistics the Pasteur Institute give the "real" number of persons treated as 1,520 and the deaths as two, making the proportion of fatalities 0.13 per cent. only, by far the lowest rate since the treatment was inaugurated ten years ago. It must be remarked that with the exception of 1894, when only 1,337 patients were treated at the Pasteur Institute, the number of persons who presented themselves last year was the smallest since the commencement. Of the persons treated in 1895 France supplied 1,263, Great Britain 173, India the very fair total of 20, the remainder coming from other parts of Europe. Germany, Austria, Russia, and Italy sent no patients.

**THE STUDY OF MEDICINE IN FRANCE.**—The violent campaign commenced by the medical students of Paris and



Montpellier some months ago against foreigners who come to France to complete their medical studies has caused a sort of reaction. The students seemed to be under the impression that everyone who took a French degree would wish to practise here. It is now pointed out that foreigners will be welcome at the German, Austrian, and other schools, while if they are driven from France, and especially from Paris, French medical science will lose much of its prestige in the Eastern countries of Europe and South America. Dr. G. Daremberg, in the *Journal des Débats*, says it would be a great mistake to prevent foreigners when in France from being attended by physicians of their own nationality, especially in the winter stations of the South and some of the watering-places. He says, "It should be well known that the English insist upon being treated, drugged, and embalmed by their own countrymen. It is an inveterate habit with them. As we have a great pecuniary interest in keeping them in France during some months, we ought to be prepared to make a few concessions. French practitioners will lose nothing, as they will never be consulted by English people."

## Foreign and Colonial News.

**PHILADELPHIA COLLEGE OF PHARMACY.**—The seventy-fifth anniversary of the founding of this college is to be celebrated on April 22.

**ANTIDOTES TO POISONS.**—A Bill has been introduced into the Assembly at Albany, N.Y., requiring those who sell poisons to paste the name of the best-known antidote on the bottle or package containing the poison.

**CARTER'S LITTLE LIVER-PILLS.**—For some time a bogus variety of these pills has been on sale in the United States, and the Carter Medicine Company have, after some trouble, traced its origin, and got the counterfeiter sentenced to eight months' imprisonment.

**THE RICKSECKER BUSINESS TO CONTINUE.**—Assignee Parsons has been authorised to continue the business of Theodore Ricksecker, the manufacturing perfumer of New York, whose failure we announced recently. Mr. Ricksecker has received large orders from abroad, and he is making preparations to take active control again. He claims that his embarrassments were only temporary, and that in a short time there will be no necessity for the services of the assignee.

**A DIME PHARMACY.**—The American dime or 10-cent. piece is a useful coin, about the size of our own old fourpenny bit, and as nimble if not as valuable as our sixpence. Dime things from "museums," or shows, upwards and downwards are common enough, and the latest to be added to the list is a dime pharmacy. This has been opened in Chicago, and every prescription dispensed in it is charged a dime, regardless of the cost. We are told that it is a benevolent institution, "supplying a long-felt want in a long-wanting community."

**TRYING TO FORCE SUPPLIES.**—An interesting development of the anti-cutting movement is now hatching in the United States. A Cincinnati firm, who do not conform to the rebate plan, ordered goods from several houses, which they declined to supply, and now the Cincinnati firm are trying to see if the law will not help them to compel the wholesale druggists to supply them with goods. The *Era* states that a similar case was tried some years ago in Philadelphia, and it was decided that a merchant could not be compelled to sell to a man if he believed such a sale to be to the detriment of his business.

**TRINIDAD CHEMISTS AND THE CUSTOMS TARIFF.**—In May, 1895, a new Customs tariff came into force in Trinidad. In it the duty on alcoholic preparations was considerably raised, but owing to an oversight certain tinctures used in medicinal preparations were not mentioned in the free-list, as appears to have been the intention of the authorities. The Collector of Customs has adhered to the letter of the law, and the result is that the local chemists have decided to increase the sale-price of tinctures, &c. One of the pharmacists has approached the Governor on the subject, but that functionary refused to interfere, whereupon a meeting of the druggists was called to consider what steps should be

taken to have the law amended if possible. The meeting had not been held when the last mail left the island.

**THE SPANISH CREAM OF TARTAR AND OLIVE OIL INDUSTRIES.**—The preparation of cream of tartar and tartaric acid, which was formerly carried on extensively in Catalonia, and on a small scale in the other provinces of Spain, has now almost ceased. In less than forty years twelve factories in Catalonia, and over thirty in the rest of Spain, have been closed—in many cases with great loss to the proprietors. The raw material itself is now exported to England and Germany, and there prepared. Another important article of export from Barcelona, however—olive oil—is becoming more known, and apparently more appreciated than formerly. During the past year or two great efforts have been made in Catalonia to improve the quality of the oil by using only the best olives, and there appears to be a genuine desire to obtain a larger sale by improving the quality.

**PHARMACY IN MEXICO.**—On February 15 the Mexican Pharmaceutical Society celebrated the completion of the twenty-fifth year of its foundation. The President, Professor J. M. Lasso de la Vega, gave an address on the history and work of the Society, in which he recalled the formation of the Society at the instigation of the late Professor Gunisindo Mendoza. The previously organised pharmaceutical body in Mexico had been the Academia Farmaceutica, which published, in 1846, the first Mexican Pharmacopœia. The second much-needed edition of that work was published under auspices of the present Society in 1884. The Society has, moreover, done good service in raising the standard of pharmaceutical education in the Republic, and in assisting to frame laws regulating the practice of pharmacy. An appendix to the second edition of the Pharmacopœia appeared in 1890, and in the same year the Society commenced the publication of its journal, *La Farmacia*.

**FIRE IN BOMBAY.**—The Army and Navy Stores building in Bombay was completely destroyed by fire on the morning of March 11. Such a conflagration has not been seen in Bombay for some years, and the dangerous position of the Esplanade Hotel adjoining caused much alarm. All the residents in the hotel turned out at 4 A.M. into the University Gardens adjoining, among the evicted being the well-known drug-representative, Mr. Chas. W. White; but no damage was done to the hotel, and the residents returned to their rooms the same morning after the fire had been extinguished. Several reasons have been adduced as to the cause of the fire, such as fusion of electrical connections, spontaneous combustion in the drug-department, and sparks from the hotel chimney. The arrangements of the establishment are such that in spite of there being a good supply of fire-appliances about the building, none of these could be used owing to the place being locked up, and the caretaker, having shifted his residence, could not be found in time to open the building.

**AN OLD FRIEND WITH A NEW FACE.**—Panghawar jamba has recently been brought into trade as a styptic wadding, a substitute for iron-chloride wool. The new article is made in Germany, but the wadding itself is none other than our old friend *Agnus scythicus*. The drug was first scientifically noticed in England in 1856, when Daniel Hanbury wrote an article upon it. It consists of curious moniliform hairs from  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch to 2 inches long, obtained from the lower part of the stalk of a large fern found in Sumatra, and over the greater part of Asia as far north as China, as well as in the Sandwich Islands, Mexico, &c. In the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries the plant seems to have been known as Scythian Lamb (*Agnus scythicus*), and there were many curious fables about it. It was said to be half plant and half animal, to grow from seed like a plant, and to have a root; while in its animal nature it rejoiced in a sort of flesh and blood, browsed upon the surrounding herbs by turning round upon its axis or root, until, having devoured all within reach, it perished of hunger. For some ten years before 1856 it had been known as a styptic in Holland and Germany, and found a place in the Netherlands Pharmacopœia of 1851. It seemed to owe its styptic property to its extraordinary power of absorbing water, and when in contact with blood it extracted the watery part so quickly as to cause the remainder to coagulate rapidly.



## Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland.

THE monthly meeting of the Council was held on April 1. Present:—Mr. W. F. Wells, jun. (President), in the chair; Mr. Downes (Vice-President), Mr. Beggs (Treasurer), and Messrs. Murray, Baxter, Grindley, Kelly, Hayes, Whittle, Charles Evans, and Conyngham.

### NO MORE SCHOOLS WANTED.

A letter from Mr. R. C. Cowley, Principal of the Liverpool School of Pharmacy, asked the Council to recognise his school, and enclosed a statement of its educational scheme.

THE PRESIDENT: From the prospectus of the school I have no doubt it is a very good one, but we should not be wise to recognise any more schools at present.

MR. HAYES: I thought you made up your minds that only under very exceptional circumstances would you admit any more schools.

MR. GRINDLEY: We have no means of investigating these schools. They may be all right to-day, and in six months' time not up to our requirements at all.

The Registrar was directed to reply that at present the Council were not prepared to accede to Mr. Cowley's request.

### THE COMPANY APPRENTICES.

A letter, addressed to the Registrar, was read from Mr. R. I. Edwards in relation to the memorial recently sent in by him and eight other assistants of Grattan & Co. (Limited). The writer deeply regretted that the memorial could not legally be acceded to. He thought the Pharmaceutical Council would have made some concession seeing that they allowed the regulation to remain dormant for ten years, and during that period had accepted many certificates from others in the same firm. A great injustice had been inflicted, and the Council's attack through the young men instead of through the firm of Grattan & Co. (Limited) reflected great discredit. The majority of the Council had not seemed very sympathetic towards the application; had it been granted the number of applicants from limited companies might have reached two dozen, not hundreds as intimated.

The following notices of motion were on the agenda-paper in the name of Mr. Conyngham:—

- (1) That the resolution refusing to admit Mr. Cleland and others for examination be rescinded.
- (2) That our legal adviser be instructed to draw up a by-law admitting these young men and any others in a similar position who have applied for the privilege. (It being ascertained the number is not as large as was anticipated.) The Council do this having vindicated the right to refuse certificates from limited companies; but as a matter of grace the request of these young men be granted. Let it be clearly understood that on and after this date (Mr. Cleland's case) no certificates will be received from any apprentice or assistant claiming time in the employment of a limited company.

In moving the first of these resolutions Mr. CONYNGHAM referred to the very lucid address which their President delivered to young men in that room recently, in which he expressed for the Council and on his own part the great pleasure he felt in receiving them, and told them that he would do anything for them that it was in his power to do. He (Mr. Conyngham) now asked that that promise should be redeemed. A great hardship had been committed upon the memorialists. He had found that the number concerned would be one from Cork besides six or seven from Grattan's in Belfast. [THE PRESIDENT: Ten.] And one from Cork, which would make eleven. There might be six from Harrington & Co.

THE PRESIDENT: How have you arrived at these conclusions?

MR. CONYNGHAM: I wrote to every one of the houses.

THE PRESIDENT: The letter says two dozen.

MR. HAYES: I dare say there are half a dozen in Hamilton & Long's.

THE PRESIDENT: I could give a good many more from our official records.

MR. CONYNGHAM said he was not referring to druggists but only to those who sought for the pharmaceutical

licence. For the last twenty years Hamilton & Long had not had an apprentice.

MR. BEGGS: They go into the cash-desk, and from that on.

THE PRESIDENT said he only received Mr. Conyngham's resolutions on the preceding Tuesday night. They then formed one resolution, and he took the liberty of dividing them because he did not think the latter part of the resolution, as it stood, could be regularly moved at all.

MR. CONYNGHAM, continuing, said he did not think there was anyone at the Castle who would willingly inflict a blow on these young men. Others who came from the house to which they belonged were now qualified and on the register as pharmacists. It was not ascertained until a few months ago that the Council were entitled to refuse them; and, now that the Council had established their right to do that, they ought to seek the advice of a lawyer as to—

MR. GRINDLEY: I rise to order. This is not keeping to the first part of the resolution at all.

MR. HAYES seconded Mr. Conyngham's motion for the adoption of the first resolution.

THE PRESIDENT: We have had a big discussion about this matter already, and it is childish, after we made up our minds one day, to ask us to alter them the next.

MR. GRINDLEY: And, besides, we have had a definite opinion from our legal adviser that we cannot legally do what Mr. Conyngham asks us to do. There is not the slightest doubt that the whole of this outcry is for the purpose of relieving the limited companies from what has come upon them. It is not so much the grievance of the apprentices and assistants at all. It is because the companies will not be able to get unqualified assistants and apprentices to carry on their business.

MR. HAYES: It would be only up to a certain date that these young men would be received, and after that the door would be for ever shut on the limited companies.

MR. BEGGS: I cannot see any way out of the difficulty except by sending to the Castle to rescind the regulation; and when we do that the whole thing will come to grief. We have been definitely told by our law adviser that we are acting perfectly legally in refusing to let them in. If they can show us any way of legally letting them in, I am sure the Council will be most happy to adopt it, as I would.

MR. BAXTER: I am at one with Mr. Beggs. The whole Council are desirous to admit to the examination these young men who have been under the delusion that they could come in after four or five years' apprenticeship in an historic house like that of Grattan & Co. But the difficulty is as to the legality of doing so. The matter has been brought to the highest court, and the Judges there recommended the Council to do an act of grace, which assumes that the Council have power to do it. [THE PRESIDENT: Oh, no.]

MR. BEGGS: They said, "If you have power."

THE PRESIDENT: The Judge did not say we had the power; he said, "If you have power." I gave a very guarded reply to counsel; I said I would put it before this Council that if we had any legal right to do so we should allow Mr. Cleland in.

MR. BAXTER: I read your remarks with pleasure, and I thought the possibility was suggested of extending an act of grace.

THE PRESIDENT: I said it should be taken to refer to Mr. Cleland only, and Judge Holmes said, "Certainly." I may say that before the case was called on I had a consultation with one of the counsel, who said, "Can you not let this gentleman in?" I said, "If we can do it legally we will be most anxious to do so." The Judge took good care not to tell us how we were to do it; he only said, "If you have the power."

MR. BAXTER: Then, if we have not the legal power, we cannot grant their request.

MR. WHITTLE said this matter had been considered very fully on two previous occasions. Their legal advisers' opinion was given to them at the last Council meeting, and they could not go behind it. It was entirely wrong for the Council to discuss the matter further. If the feeling of the Council was that they should be admitted, let a notice of motion be given to rescind the regulation of 1884. But if they should thus open their portals, Mr. Conyngham's small number of applicants would treble itself. He had been informed that it was a common thing in a prominent house



in the city to give certificates of apprenticeship to cash-boys, who, having a little time to spare, learned to compound, and at the end of a certain number of years received certificates of apprenticeship. If they rescinded the regulation they would be opening the door to that sort of thing.

Mr. EVANS asked did Mr. Conyngham contemplate by his resolution to override the regulation?—for he (Mr. Evans) thought the Council were unanimously of opinion that the regulation should not be rescinded.

The PRESIDENT: On the first day this was before us I gave it as my opinion that we could not admit them except by rescinding the regulation. Mr. Clay went fully into the matter, and told us that the only way we could do it was by rescinding the regulation made in 1884.

The VICE-PRESIDENT argued against the motion, and a letter was read from Mr. Trnkington expressing sympathy with the young men, and asking could he vote by proxy in their favour?

Mr. BEGGS: He cannot vote by proxy.

Mr. CONYNTHAM, in reply, said he did not personally know any of these young men. His only object was the honour of that Board and the good of the young men. He believed that the treatment they were now receiving would ever live in their memories. Could they not pass a regulation admitting these young men to examination as a matter of grace? Some day or other they would have no power over them at all, for there would be an examination without any apprenticeship.

The PRESIDENT: Who will take the power from us?

Mr. GRINDLEY: The limited companies.

Mr. KELLY expressed his sympathy with the young men.

Mr. MURRAY was strongly in favour of admitting the young men if they could, but he did not see how they could.

The PRESIDENT said it was easy for Mr. Conyngham and others to try to make it appear that they had a monopoly of kindness of heart. Mr. Conyngham had said that he did not know any of those young men. He (the President) could not say that he personally knew any of them, but great influence had been brought to bear upon him in their favour, and he was as anxious as anyone at that table—perhaps more so—to admit them for certain reasons if it were possible legally to do so. But, considering it as a matter of right and wrong, he did not care what influence or pressure was brought to bear on him—he would not give way to it if he thought that by doing so he should be doing wrong to his constituents and to the Society for which they were all working. He would willingly see them passed if it could be legally done, but he did not see how the Council could pass them. If Mr. Conyngham had the courage of his convictions let him give notice of a motion to rescind the regulation; but he (the President) was sure that the Council would not be silly enough to pass such a motion. Mr. Conyngham, in his statement as to the number of applications, had limited himself to Belfast alone; but other applications had been made. They had had applications from another house in Belfast, and from a gentleman in Cork the other day; and a house in the city of Dublin had issued a great number of certificates, several of which had already been refused by the Council; so that it would be impossible to say where such applications would end. It would be most unjust and unfair to accept the gentlemen whom Mr. Conyngham's motion covered, and to shut the door in the face of others in the same position. The President was then about to put the first of the motions, but

Mr. WHITLA objected to its being put at all, having regard to the opinion given by the legal adviser.

The PRESIDENT: If we should rescind the resolution passed at the last meeting we would be in the same position as we were on the last day. I think I can legally put that part of Mr. Conyngham's resolution.

Mr. CONYNTHAM: I will not press the matter, and with your permission will withdraw it.

Leave was granted to Mr. Conyngham to do so.

Mr. CONYNTHAM: But that won't prevent me from moving again in the matter.

The PRESIDENT: I will not put on the agenda any other resolution on the subject unless it be one that can be legally passed. I won't receive another unless it be to rescind the regulation.

Other business having been disposed of the Council adjourned.

## The Drug-trade in Cairo.



Mr. HERTZ (Hertz & Collingwood) has just returned from a three-months' trip to Egypt, Palestine, Malta, Italy, &c. Mr. Hertz's friends will not need to be told that he has made the most of the opportunity of bringing before Egyptians, Maltese, and other outlanders, the virtues of the various luxuries which his firm are engaged in pushing—the Sans-sure and the Coca-tonic champagne, the Rosbach and the H. & C. Hungarian bitter-waters, Jensen's cod-liver oil, and the Jerezona wine, for instance. But he seems to have taken as much pleasure out of the trip as was

available to a business man, and has brought back some of the African sunshine on his face. During his stay in Cairo Mr. Hertz was good enough to think of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST; indeed, he states that it was difficult to get away from it for long together, for it kept quietly obtruding itself on his notice whenever he went among those who deal in myrrh and frankincense and other drugs. His thought of us was manifested by getting us some photographs illustrative of certain aspects of the drug-trade in Cairo, that most accessible of all great Eastern cities—a city which no colonisation can occidentalise, which, though it is yearly becoming more and more a fashionable and invalid resort, still retains all the fascinations which belong to the Orient, and to the land of mystery of which it is the capital.

"The Muskey," says Mr. Hertz, "is one of the most interesting, if not the most interesting, of thoroughfares in the world. Almost Parisian at one end, it becomes more Eastern as you proceed along its great extent—nearly twice as far as from the Post Office to the Marble Arch. On each side are the bazaars, where are the workers in brass and copper, in wood, in silk, and in all kinds of material. The great drug and chemical bazaar—or, rather, market—is at the very far end, between the city and the fortifications. There, on a sandy plain, are pitched the booths of the drug and druggery dealers. All sorts of herbs and roots, and leaves, native and foreign, cod-liver oil, methylated spirit, white-lead, chloride of lime, and whatever in such lines there is a demand for, is sold here in a wholesale way. Dealers come here every Wednesday with their donkeys from all the towns up the Nile, and from the villages between Cairo and the Red Sea, to stock themselves. It is a busy scene." [It is represented in the view which we reproduce from a large photograph.]

"This old fellow with the medicine-chest is one of the medicine-men of the Cairo streets. These men generally have their pitches at the street corners, and their stock consists of all kinds of galenicals, pills, extracts, plasters, lozenges, such as the natives dose themselves with. This man is a Sudanee, and a very fine specimen of the Arab race.

"The other is a lemonade-seller. He carries a sort of metal gazogene, and a little stock of cups. He touches a button, and this opens a valve, which fills the cup at the end of the tube; then he tips the drink into the vessel and takes his penny, and you take the beverage. And very good it is. He has the necessary chemicals about him to re-charge his cannon when the supply is exhausted.

"There are three or four European pharmacies in Cairo, where English assistants are kept. The best part of their business is done with the English residents and visitors, and most of the well-known home specialities are in evidence.



Beecham's, Eno's, Kepler, and Vinolia seemed to be specially prominent. I noticed also that Vin Mariani and Fer Bravais were particularly prominent. Yes, our own specialities are

themselves. Here is a parcel of a dried herb I bought in the drug-bazaar, which has an immense native reputation for the cure of gravel and stone. I mean to get it identified



DRUG BAZAAR AT GEZIREH, CAIRO.

going very well too in Cairo. Mr. Del Mar carries a stock of most of them. He has a very large wholesale drug-trade all over the Levant. I think he told me he employs ten

and tested. Doctors in Cairo and Malta told me that it is really effective."

Mr. Hertz had other details to give of his visit to the Nile



STREET MEDICINE-SELLER IN CAIRO.



LEMONADE-MERCHANT, CAIRO.

travellers. Mr. Holz, a German, is the chief importer of raw drugs. It is from his warehouse and from native importers at Alexandria that the dealers in the drug-bazaar supply

Cataracts, to Jerusalem, to Malta and Sicily; but these would lead us away from our proper business, so for the present we refrain.



## The Winter Session.

### PLYMOUTH AND DISTRICT CHEMISTS' ASSOCIATION.

THE quarterly meeting was held at the Forester's Hall, Plymouth, on April 1, Mr. C. J. Park (President) in the chair. The Hon. Secretary (Mr. James Cocks) reported progress, and acknowledged the gift of a Barclay's air-pump from that firm to the Association. It was also announced that prizes would be offered to members of the Junior Section for botanical work done through the coming summer, previous winners of first prizes not being eligible to compete. An adjournment was made to the large hall. A good company, together with lady friends, listened to a descriptive sketch by Mr. R. D. DOBLE (Tavistock) on

### THREE YEARS IN SOUTH AFRICA.

By means of lantern-slides, lent by Messrs. Donald Currie & Co., of the Castle line of steamers, the descriptions were rendered exceptionally interesting. Starting from Dartmouth by the R.M.S. *Norham Castle*, Mr. Doble was soon on his way to fill a situation at the Cape. Maps of the route and views of the interior of the ship were shown, also of Madeira and St. Helena, which were touched on the way. Following this, the lecturer described the docks of Cape Town and the town and neighbourhood, the suburbs being Mr. Doble's ideal of what a dwelling-place should be for climate, comfort, and life generally. After six weeks' stay at Cape Town, where matters did not run too smoothly with him, Mr. Doble accepted an offer to take charge of a pharmacy at Mowbray, a suburb four miles out. Pharmacy at the Cape is much like that at home, he said, but prices are better. Cutting was tried by one firm some time ago, but has been abandoned; 1s. 1½d. articles sell for 1s. 3d. A knowledge of Dutch is essential to the druggist, and Dutch medicines are in great demand. These latter are put up mostly in 1-oz. bottles, contents and directions being indicated by labels stuck on or tied round the necks. Coconut oil, asafetida, and benzoin (for burning) are the main purchases of the Malays, who form the labouring classes. Morning market is the busiest part of the day, farmers and wool-merchants flocking in from all parts, sales being conducted by auction. Black and white do not harmonise—whilst the farmer annexes all the best chairs in the store the nigger must wait for his physic on the doorstep; but the Dutch are the main aggressors. Views of Johannesburg, in 1887 a struggling village, in 1895 a flourishing city with sixty thousand inhabitants, formed great contrasts. The Vaal river and Krugersdorp were also shown. One year and eight months were spent at King William's Town in the pharmacy of John Gaunt & Co. (now belonging to Mr. Doble's brother). Here the broad streets, shaded by trees, the great traffic and rush of business form a marked change from suburban-store life. The temperature is about the same as at Nice, but at certain seasons terribly hot. Brief descriptions were given of Port Elizabeth (the Liverpool of South Africa) and Kimberley, also of the countries of the Zulus and Kaffirs, with illustrations of types and characteristics. Travelling by mule-coaches and ox-waggon were the old style, but light railways are now spreading over all the districts, especially in the mining-quarters. Ostrich-farming is an important industry in South Africa, and the peculiar noises made by the birds keep one awake after shop-hours. The lecturer concluded by saying that the prospects of the pharmacist at the Cape are bright, and young chemists and druggists with all-round experience and energy can push ahead. Two brothers of Mr. Doble are already out there, and another is on the way out. After the vote of thanks, he said that recent methods of sanitation adopted at Cape Town were satisfactory, and improvements on years ago, outbreaks of fever being less frequent.

### THE EXETER ASSOCIATION OF CHEMISTS AND DRUGGISTS.

THE materia-medica cabinet, presented to the members of the Exeter Association of Chemists and Druggists by the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain for the use of

students, has been placed in the Albert Memorial Museum, where the pharmaceutical classes, recently started in Exeter, are conducted by Mr. Ware.

### GLASGOW AND WEST OF SCOTLAND PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION.

THE annual meeting was held on Thursday, April 2, Mr. W. L. Currie in the chair.

### ANNUAL BUSINESS.

Mr. J. ANDERSON RUSSELL, Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, reported that the Association began the year with a balance of 35*l.* 9*s.* 7*d.*, 25*l.* 8*s.* was received from subscriptions, and 59*l.* 9*s.* 9*d.* from other sources. The total expenditure was 70*l.* 2*s.* 9*d.*, leaving a balance of 50*l.* 4*s.* 7*d.* in hand. Regarding the attendance at the meetings, Mr. Russell stated that it had not been what was expected, but there was noticeable increasing interest on the part of the younger members. The present membership is 155—an increase of eleven over the previous year.

The PRESIDENT, in moving the adoption of the reports, spoke of the comparatively small attendances at the meetings, and said he understood the great difficulty many of the members had in getting away; but if it suited the majority of the members of Council to be present it should suit more of the rank and file. He hoped that if the Early-closing Bill passed it would have some effect in increasing the attendances. The reports were adopted.

Mr. THOMAS BLAIR, the Librarian, reported that the number of books issued during the session was five times that of last year. The library was not yet composed sufficiently of books of a much-sought-after nature. An exception had to be made in the case of "Remington's Pharmacy," which had not graced the shelf for one hour since the Association became its possessor.

Mr. JAMES MOIR suggested that the Association should get a room of its own to accommodate the library and where members of the Association might meet.

Mr. MACKENZIE asked the use of the library for the students attending his school of pharmacy.

Both these matters were referred to the Council, the PRESIDENT adding that he thought an extra five shillings a year from employers would pay for a room.

### EARLY CLOSING.

Mr. RUSSELL reported that at the request of the Council he had forwarded the following letter to Sir John Lubbock, re his Early-closing Bill:—

The Council of this Association desires to congratulate you upon the progress made with the Bill for the early closing of shops, and desires to draw your attention to the circumstances connected with shops for the sale of drugs in Glasgow and the West of Scotland. In this city the majority of drug-shops are the property of doctors, and to many towns throughout the West of Scotland the same statement applies, although it is believed the district is peculiar in this respect. There are also drug-shops kept open for persons who are neither chemists nor doctors, although many speak of these as chemists' shops, and the persons engaged in them, although unregistered, as chemists. These premises any legal enactment would not apply to unless specifically stated, because the definition of the term "chemist" extends only to persons registered under the Pharmacy Acts. It appears only fair that whatever conditions are by legal enactment made to apply to the keeping open of chemists' shops should be made to apply equally to all shops kept open for the sale of drugs and medicinal preparations.

Sir John, Mr. Russell stated, had acknowledged the letter, and promised to consider the suggestion of the Council.

Mr. CURRIE said this was a matter that required very serious consideration. Personally, he regarded the proposal as a step in the right direction, because he thought most of them would agree with him that their hours of labour were far too long, and that it was not good for them physically or mentally, or in any way, that they should slave on till half-past nine, ten, and eleven o'clock at night. Whether the provisions of the Bill would meet with their approval he did not know, but he thought the majority of the members of their profession in Glasgow would assuredly go in for the Bill. He observed that in the Bill there was a clause permitting the sale of medicines and medical appliances after the hour fixed for closing, and that might form a loophole



for illegal trading; but if they could obviate that difficulty he thought they should give the Bill their support.

Mr. LAING, speaking in support of the Bill, said he was only sorry that it was so much safeguarded as to leave it absolutely in the discretion of the localities concerned. He very much feared that it would be a difficult matter for them in Glasgow ever to be able to utilise it to any practical purpose; but he certainly would like the Bill to pass.

Mr. THOMAS ADAM said he would rather that Sir John had drawn up a Bill for the formation of early-closing districts, including all shops in the district, than that the different trades should petition separately.

Mr. RUSSELL remarked that the Bill was being opposed on the ground of its being in the direction of grandmotherly legislation. He held the very contrary opinion: that it was being for the sake of the liberty of the subject that it was being brought forward; with which sentiment Mr. D. WATSON agreed. Mr. BOYD, however, declared himself an opponent of the Bill on "interference with the liberty of the subject" principle. He did not think the policeman on the beat should have the power to enter a shop and tell the shopkeeper that it was time he was closed. Mr. MOIR also opposed the Bill, because he did not see how it was to work where there was not much trade until the evening.

Mr. CURRIE remarked that the Council was unanimous in favour of the Bill.

Mr. BOYD moved that the Association petition Parliament to the effect that all pharmaceutical chemists and all shops where drugs are sold be exempted from the provisions of the Bill. Mr. MOIR seconded.

Mr. LAING moved, as an amendment, that the Association heartily approve of the principle of early closing, and give its support to the Bill now before Parliament. Mr. D. WATSON seconded.

On a division being taken, the amendment was carried by 12 votes to 2, several gentlemen declining to vote.

#### THE POSITION OF THE DRUG-TRADE.

THE PRESIDENT, in the course of some remarks, said he trusted that the success which had attended their efforts in the past would continue and increase in the future. He had been twenty-six years in the drug-trade, and he could certainly say that the position of the trade now was very much improved from what it was in his younger days, and he did not despair of seeing it improve more. He was not one of those individuals who went about the city crying out that the drug-trade was done; he did not think it was done. No doubt the outlook was not so bright as it might be, but he had no doubt that if the chemist looked after his business his business would look after him. If he gained and kept the confidence of the public, not all the limited and other companies in the world would affect him. (Applause.)

#### ELECTION OF OFFICE-BEARERS.

The following office-bearers were then elected:—Hon. President—Mr. Daniel Frazer; Hon. Vice-Presidents—Mr. John McMillan, Mr. Alexander Kinninmont, and Mr. J. W. Sutherland (Dumfries); President—Mr. W. L. Currie; Vice-Presidents—Mr. John Foster, Mr. Thomas Robinson, Mr. Alexander Laing, and Mr. James Robb; Secretary and Treasurer—Mr. J. Anderson Russell, 212 New City Road; District Secretaries—Mr. James Bruce (Southside), Mr. George Robertson (Partick), Mr. A. Miller (North-East), and Mr. Mungo Wallace (North-West); Librarian—Mr. Colin Gates; Committee—Messrs. Hugh Lambie, James Moir, J. W. Miller, Alexander Boyd, A. McKellar, Robert Brodie, D. S. Robertson, James McNiven, James McMurray, M. T. McCowan, J. Stewart, Robert Tocher, Thomas Adams, Alexander Bruce, and John Neil.

#### ULSTER PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION.

A MEETING of this Association was held in Belfast on Tuesday evening, April 7, Mr. W. Prott (President) presiding. Mr. ALFRED ADAMS, L.P.S.I., read a paper entitled "An Abused Member of the Solanaceae." The paper was a very interesting account of the history, therapeutical virtues, and commerce of tobacco. We hope to publish it shortly. A discussion followed on the best method of making Arch-

angel-tar pills and creosote-pills. Carbonate of potash was suggested in both cases as a suitable vehicle, in conjunction with very dry liquorice-powder for massing the pills.

## Trade Notes.

MESSRS. EVANS, GADD & Co. have issued a circular describing their spring and summer specialities, a copy of which they will send to any chemist.

A NEW PERFUME BOTTLE has just been introduced by Messrs. Ayrton & Saunders, Duke Street, Liverpool, and is represented in the accompanying engraving. It is a well-made bottle of white flint glass, and the shape admirably adapts it for shilling perfumes. The capacity is 6 dr. exactly.

TWO more medals, making eighty-seven in all, have been awarded to Jeyes' Sanitary Compounds Company (Limited) at exhibitions held at Bury and Colne (Lancashire).

MESSRS. ROSS & Co., opticians, 111 New Bond Street, W., have issued in addition to the catalogue we recently commented upon—a No. 1 illustrated list, which include lenses, cameras, and other photographic goods. No. 2 is devoted to microscopes, telescopes, opera-glasses, and various other optical instruments. Either of these catalogues may be obtained post free for 6d. by those who do not do business with the firm.

MESSRS. TIDMAN & SON (LIMITED), of Bushell Street, E., state that a fire which recently occurred on their premises will not interfere with the sea-salt and perfumery branches of their business, and orders for soaps and druggists' sundries will not be delayed long.

MR. E. L. HENRY has published through Messrs. Bowles & Co., 44 Brushfield Street, E.C., an eight-page pamphlet of rhymes and tables entitled "Mnemonic Aids in Pharmacy." It is devoted to tinctures and ointments, and costs 6d. As we cannot work up much enthusiasm about the production, we quote a sample for the benefit of students:—

Ammoniated Opium, when rightly made, contains  
In ev'ry ounce of tincture formed, extractive from 5 grains  
The two Quinines one sixty grains for each, exactly weigh  
The simple's made with Muriate and Tinct. Aurant. you'll say.

Poet McGonegal could not have done better than this.

THE latest of Messrs. Burroughs, Wellcome & Co.'s tabloids is one containing 5 gr. of cerium oxalate. This is interesting for two reasons:—First, because the late Sir James Y. Simpson used the oxalate with success for the treatment of vomiting of pregnancy; but as far as our observations in dispensing are concerned, other prescribers have not had such happy results, probably because they have given it in doses of 2 gr. to 4 gr. Dr. Lauder Brunton says, "Large doses may succeed when small ones fail," which brings us to the second point—viz., that Burroughs, Wellcome & Co. direct one to four of the tabloids to be taken, and they inform us that the use of the salt in the treatment of the vomiting of pregnancy and of sea-sickness is increasing. It is curious how the new remedies of thirty to fifty years ago come to the surface now and then, generally calling to mind certain half-forgotten facts. For example, in writing to us about the tabloids the makers say they "anticipate that they will give excellent results in the treatment of chronic, spasmodic and phthical cough." We had forgotten the fact that cerium salts have been proved to be most excellent for cough, especially of nervous origin, the dose to begin with being 5 gr.

CAMPHOR-CHLORAL is stated by an East Indian doctor to be by far the best application for insect and scorpion bites. It gives almost instant relief.





## Legal Reports.

### SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.

#### THE SALE OF ACETIC ACID FOR WHITE WINE VINEGAR

At the Staffordshire Quarter Sessions on Wednesday of this week, before Mr. N. C. A. Neville and other Justices, Messrs. Boots (Limited), chemists, appealed against a conviction by the Potteries Stipendiary (Mr. Harold Wright) on December 23 last, when they they were fined 10*l.* and costs, under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act, for having sold diluted acetic acid for white-wine vinegar; and Frederick William Whitwell, manager of one of Messrs. Boots' shops at Burslem, was ordered to pay 5*l.* and costs on a similar charge. The prosecution was taken at the instance of Mr. E. W. H. Knight, district inspector under the Act. The facts of the case were, shortly, these:—On November 15, Charles F. Grocott, assistant inspector, went to the appellants' shop at Burslem, and asked for a quart of white-wine vinegar, paying 4*d.* for what was supplied to him. The County Analyst, to whom the purchased article was submitted, certified that it was not vinegar, but diluted acetic acid. The Stipendiary considered both parties were very culpable, and recorded a conviction for what he described as a fraud on the public.

At the hearing of the appeal on Wednesday, Mr. Stanger, Q.C., of the Midland Circuit, and Mr. R. C. E. Plumptre, barrister (instructed by Messrs. Wells & Hind, of Nottingham), appeared on behalf of the appellants; and Mr. H. T. Boddam (instructed by Messrs. Hand, Blakiston, Everett & Hand, of Stafford) represented the respondents. At the outset Mr. Stanger stated that he had consulted with the other side with the result that a course had been agreed upon which he hoped would receive the approval of the Court, and save a lengthened investigation. He then detailed the facts of the case, pointing out that the assistant-inspector told Whitwell that he required the vinegar for the purpose of analysis, and therefore there was no concealment about it. Messrs. Boots had about fifty branches of their business in various parts of the country, and each of these shops was in charge of a properly-qualified chemist and druggist. The acetic acid in question was supplied from their headquarters, and there was no doubt as to its purity. The offence was committed against the Act, but it appeared to be an almost universal practice to sell diluted acetic acid as white-wine vinegar. There was very little demand in the country for white-wine vinegar, and, according to some experts, there was very little in use in the country except in cases where an old recipe was followed for pickling. The learned counsel argued that for the latter purpose diluted acetic acid was as good, if not better, than white-wine vinegar, and that it had been the almost universal custom in the trade to supply diluted acetic acid when white-wine vinegar was asked for. Mr. Stanger went on to state that some six or nine months ago Messrs. Boots' attention was drawn to certain proceedings in regard to the sale of white-wine vinegar, and they sent out a circular to all their managers, requesting them simply to sell the article demanded, and not to substitute others or diluted articles, with a special warning not to sell acetic acid as white-wine vinegar. One of these circulars was duly received by Messrs. Boots' Burslem manager, who subsequently left the service of the firm, and the attention of Whitwell, who succeeded him, was not drawn to the circular. In supplying diluted acetic acid for white-wine vinegar Mr. Whitwell was following a custom which he had learned whilst an apprentice at the trade. Mr. Stanger proceeded to argue that in this case the masters were not liable for the act of their servant, but remarked that the point was a doubtful one, and if pressed would create a long argument, which both parties wished to avoid. With regard to Whitwell, he was prepared to admit that the article sold was diluted acetic acid; but there was no moral culpability in his act. Mr. Stanger added that the main object of the appeal was to enable Messrs. Boots to vindicate their position in the eyes of the public, and to secure that no imputation of fraud should rest upon them. He suggested that the conviction should be modified and allowed to stand.

Mr. Boddam said he was instructed to support the conviction, and he wished it to be upheld on the grounds that a master was responsible for the acts of his servant, and to make it clear that those engaged in the trade could not sell acetic acid as white-wine vinegar. He agreed that there was no suggestion of fraud on the part of Messrs. Boots.

The Court decided to confirm the conviction in Messrs. Boots' case, but modified it by a reduction of the penalty to 5*l.*, directing appellants to pay costs of respondents to be taxed. They made a similar order in Whitwell's case, reducing the fine to 40*s.*, with costs.

### A CHEMIST SELLS BRANDY.

WILLIAM THOMAS BLEWETT, chemist, of Hayle, was charged at Camborne on March 31 by the Inland Revenue with selling a bottle of brandy on December 16 without being properly licensed to do so. Mr. Vivian Thomas appeared for defendant, who pleaded guilty. The Supervisor of Excise stated that defendant was Gilbey's agent, and as such, held a licence for the sale of foreign wines, but he held no licence for the sale of spirits. If under this charge defendant was convicted, he would have to forfeit the wine-licence now held, and could never take a licence under the Inland Revenue again. The cost of licences to sell spirits in the way defendant did on that day was thirteen guineas a year. By not having such licence he entered into unfair competition with others, and escaped the superintendence of the police. Mr. Vivian Thomas stated that the servant of one of the defendant's customers asked him to sell a bottle of brandy to him for his master, who was ill. He replied that he had no licence and could not do so, but as the servant was excited, and pressed for it, he took a bottle from his private stock, and sold it. Several people had lately tried to induce defendant to sell spirits, but he had refused them, and this was the only case in which he had supplied spirits. Fined two guineas.

### COUNTY COURT CASE.

#### A CHEMIST'S COMPOSITION.

In the City of London Court on April 1, before Mr. E. T. E. Besley, Q.C., Deputy Judge, J. R. Lockwood & Son, 168 St. John's Street, Clerkenwell, sought to have Alexander D. Rae, chemist, 6 Railway Place, Fenchurch Street, E.C., committed for non-payment of 3*l.* 2*s.* 4*d.* due for printing done in the way of his trade. The plaintiffs' solicitor's clerk said that the debt had been due since January of last year, and the defendant had not paid a penny. Mr. Gowing, solicitor for the defendant, said his client called a meeting of his creditors some months ago, when a composition of 5*s.* in the pound was offered. The debts amounted to between 400*l.* and 500*l.*, and the defendant's friends had enabled him to pay the composition. That had been accepted by most of the creditors, but the plaintiffs had not accepted it. The defendant did not employ anyone to help him in his business, and he lived in a house the rent of which was paid by his wife. The Deputy Judge: There was no receivership? Mr. Gowing: No; it was only a private arrangement. The Deputy Judge said he would adjourn the case for inquiries.

### "BOVRIL."

In the Chancery Division of the High Court, on March 31, before Mr. Justice Kekewich, an application was made by Mr. Bower, on behalf of Mr. John Rosetree, trading as Rosetree & Co., 21 Bedford Road, Canterbury, for an order to rectify the register by expunging therefrom a mark consisting of the name "Bovril," which was registered in November, 1886, as the property of Mr. J. L. Johnston, and by him assigned in April, 1889, to a company called "Bovril (Limited)," to whom it was registered under clause 42 of the Act under substances used for food or ingredients for food. Without calling on counsel who appeared to oppose the application, his Lordship said the real question in the case was whether the word "Bovril" was non-descriptive. In his opinion it was not descriptive as applied to all, or to a large number, of the articles sold by the respondents, and, consequently, it must be allowed to remain on the register, and he dismissed the application with costs.



## Bankruptcies and Failures.

*Re* HENRY MARKS, St. Helen's Place, E.C., and late of 46 Artillery Lane, Bishopsgate, Proprietor of "Marks's Gout-cure."

THE creditors under this failure met at the London Bankruptcy Court last Wednesday, before Mr. E. L. Hough, Official Receiver. The debtor for many years prior to March, 1894, practised as a gout and rheumatic specialist, and in that month he commenced the manufacture and vending of a proprietary medicine, which he called Marks's Gout and Rheumatic Cure. He had a capital of 400*l*. (100*l* borrowed). Nearly the whole of his present indebtedness, returned at 2,572*l*. 14*s*. 10*d*., was for advertisements. In August, 1894, he called a private meeting of creditors, and subsequently assigned the business to the chairman of a committee of creditors then formed, he to receive a weekly salary of 2*l*. 2*s*. and 10 per cent. of the profits for management. The engagement was terminated in December, 1894, and in the following month the business was closed. Since then the debtor has again practised as a gout specialist, and has the use of a friend's office at 11 St. Helen's Place. He recently attempted to promote "Marks's Cure Company (Limited)," with a capital of 100,000*l*., but the subscriptions were insufficient, and the scheme was not carried out. The debtor attributes his failure to the pressure by creditors, which prevented him reaping the benefit of his advertising; also to law costs. The case was left in the hands of the Official Receiver to be wound up in bankruptcy. No assets are disclosed.

*Re* ROBERT WALTER MORRIS, sole and only known partner of Dunn & Co., Wholesale Manufacturing Chemists, 27 Elder Street, Edinburgh.

THE bankrupt stated that he had been in business for about two years, and traded under the name of Dunn & Co., manufacturing chemists, wholesale and export druggists, London and Edinburgh. He had no place of business in London, but had an agent there. He manufactured a few extracts from different herbs, the process of manufacture being maceration. He did not export anything. The trustee (Mr. Drummond, C.A.): Then your label is misleading? Bankrupt: Well, I had the place in London indicated to you. Did you manufacture "essential oils, floral waters, and extracts?" I bought and traded in them. He kept only one book—a day-book. It did not contain any record of the goods he sold, and the only record of the goods he bought was the invoices. He was his own cashier, and therefore did not keep a cash-book. Prior to his starting in this business he acted as agent in Edinburgh for the London firm of Bogt & Co, now extinct; but he did not keep any record of his intramissions with them. He had put in a state of affairs in his sequestration showing a deficiency of 212*l*. That deficiency arose almost entirely in connection with the litigation *Fraser v. Morris*. That was an action by Miss Fraser, who was now his wife, against him for affiliation and aliment. In his state of affairs the law expenses in that case were set down at 105*l*., but he had incurred other law expenses in connection with the case which had been paid. He had four or five agents altogether. Did it not occur to you that it was a reckless waste of money to be consulting four or five agents in connection with an action which you confessed to have been futile by having married this lady? I did not certainly consider it as a waste of money. I did not expect to lose the case. You married her two days after the decision was given? That was arranged before the decision was given. You will find in the evidence given at that time why I did not marry her before that. He had paid lawyer's accounts to the extent of 15*l* or 20*l*. Further questions were put as to how the remainder of the deficiency was made up, and the trustee asked if bankrupt would make out a list of these. Bankrupt promised to do so, but said he had given in a state already. Mr. Drummond said bankrupt had obstructed him in his duties as trustee, and he asked the Sheriff to adjourn the examination. He was informed that bankrupt's brother was in partnership with him, and that there

was a debt of 40*l*. entered in the state of affairs as due to his brother. Bankrupt replied that his brother had nothing to do with the business. He had no reason for making that statement. The Sheriff granted an adjournment to May 4. The following are the principal creditors:—

	£	s.	d.
Anderston Apothecaries' Hall, Glasgow ..	3	4	9
Baumann, —, commission agents, London ..	15	0	0
Boehm, F., London ..	1	0	0
Bowie, —, solicitor ..	51	0	0
Burgoyne & Co., chemists, London ..	26	0	0
Durrent, J., chemist, Bristol ..	12	0	0
Harker, Stagg & Morgan, London ..	2	0	0
Leslies (Limited), London ..	7	0	0
Milne, D., S.S.C. ..	5	5	0
Morris, William, Edinburgh ..	40	0	0
North British Rubber Company, Edinburgh ..	4	0	0
Peck Brothers & Winch, London ..	4	0	0
Snowdon, Sons & Co., London ..	1	0	0
Sun & Garden, S.S.C. ..	45	0	0
Wright, Hugh, agent ..	5	5	0

## Deed of Arrangement.

Hall, Joseph, 170 Amesbury Avenue, Streatham Hill, late of 14 Market Square, Wellington, chemist. Trustee, Percy Mason, Montague House, 64 Gresham Street, E.C., chartered accountant. Dated, March 28; filed, April 2. Secured creditors, 100*l*.; liabilities unsecured, 1,591*l*. 9*s*. 9*d*.; estimated net assets, 444*l*. 19*s*. 5*d*. The following are scheduled as creditors:—

	£	s.	d.
Chemists' Mineral-water Association, Bristol ..	28	0	0
Edwards, B., Birmingham ..	360	0	0
Evans, Sons & Co., Liverpool ..	60	0	0
France, Hayhurst H. H., Wellington ..	332	0	0
Hearon, Squire & Francis, London ..	33	0	0
Jewsbury & Brown ..	16	0	0
Lamb, S., Bristol ..	75	0	0
Langton, Edden & Co., London ..	41	0	0
Maw, Son & Thompson, London ..	32	0	0
Payne, George, Shrewsbury ..	50	0	0
Southall Brothers & Barclay, Birmingham ..	16	0	0
Sutton & Co., London ..	205	0	0
Taylor, Miss, Wellington ..	100	0	0
Zealley, A., Bromsgrove ..	100	0	0

## Gazette.

### PARTNERSHIPS DISSOLVED.

- Dodd, E., and Adams, E. W., under the style of Dodd & Adams, Slough, medical practitioners.
- Harvey, F., and Cliff, W., under the style of Harvey & Cliff, Smethwick, soap-manufacturers.
- Naylor, W. E., Naylor, H. S., and Quick, J. P., under the style of Naylor Brothers & Quick, James Street, Oxford Street, W., and Southall, varnish-manufacturers.
- Ross, F. W. F., and Riddell, A. W., under the style of Forbes, Ross & Riddell, New Brighton, physicians, surgeons, and general medical practitioners.
- Saks, S., and Ryden, A., under the style of Saks & Co., Blackburn, chamois-leather manufacturers and sponge-importers.
- Sulman, H. L., and Marshall, R. T., under the style of Sulman & Marshall, Gracechurch Street, E.C., analytical chemists.
- Volz, R., and Brasse, E., under the style of R. Manson, Fortress Road, Kentish Town, N.W., surgical-instrument manufacturers.

### THE BANKRUPTCY ACTS, 1883 AND 1890.

#### ADJUDICATIONS.

- Palmer, James Edwin, Peterborough, dental surgeon.
- Parkinson, Joseph, West Cowes, chemist.
- Watson, William, Danbury Street, Islington, N., photographic-apparatus maker.



## Business Changes.

*Notices of changes in the retail trade, and opening of new businesses, are inserted in this section, free of charge, if properly authenticated.*

**MR. WILFRID HILL**, chemist and druggist, of Coleshill, has sold his business to Mr. F. D. Spencer, from Stratford-on-Avon.

**MR. G. A. GRIERSON** has purchased the retail drug-business carried on by Mr. George Coverdale, pharmaceutical chemist, Lincoln.

**MR. ARTHUR HUMPHREYS**, who has been a director of Bleasdale (Limited), York, since the incorporation of the firm, has succeeded Mr. G. A. Grierson as managing director.

The style of the Fuso-Kumi Camphor-refining Company of Japan, has been changed to the "Nippon Camphor Company," but the business will be carried on as before.

**MR. GEORGE CORMACK**, formerly with Messrs. Mawson, Swan & Weddell, Newcastle, has started business as a dispensing and family chemist at Regent Street, Blyth.

The business lately carried on at 266 Gleadless Road, Heeley, has been purchased by Mr. C. H. Twelves. This is the third branch of Mr. Twelves's London Road shop.

**MR. JOSIAH BLACKWELL**, pharmaceutical chemist, 417 Moseley Road, Birmingham, has sold his business at the above address to Mr. E. B. Place, who has managed it for the past six years.

**MR. JOHN ROBERTSON**, chemist and druggist, who was manager for the late Mr. James McMillan, Hawkhill, Dundee, has, since the latter's death, been made a partner, and the business is carried on under the style of McMillan & Robertson.

## Marriages.

**HESELTON—GOODMAN.**—On March 30, at Harborne Parish Church, C. J. Heselton, chemist and druggist, Beverley, to Minnie, elder daughter of John Goodman, Harborne.

**HURST—GOSTLING.**—At the parish church, Diss, Norfolk, by the Rev. Canon Manning, Arthur Edward Hurst, of Lincoln, to Harriet Jane, only daughter of Thomas Preston Gostling, pharmaceutical chemist, of Linden House, Diss.

**WEST—HANCHETT.**—At St. Matthew's Church, Stretford, on April 2, Henry Thomas, eldest surviving son of Thomas West, chemist and druggist, Stretford, to Fanny Victoria, only daughter of William Hanchett, Belmont Place, Stretford, Manchester.

## Deaths.

**BLACKWELL.**—On April 1, Mr. William Henry Blackwell, aged 24, for seven years in the surgical-instrument department of Ayrton & Saunders, Liverpool; deeply regretted by the members of the firm and the entire staff.

**CRANIDGE.**—On Sunday, March 29, Mr. John Cranidge chemist and druggist, Old Denaby, near Mexborough. Aged 72 years. Mr. Cranidge, who had a wide reputation as a bone-setter, was much loved and respected among the mining population of his district, and, indeed, throughout South Yorkshire and North Lincolnshire. He believed very much in the use of the galvanic battery. His fee was always of a modest character, and his services were in large requisition for many years. About twelve months ago a medical practitioner living at Wath claimed and secured damages against the deceased at the Leeds Assizes, and the mental strain caused by the litigation is said to have much affected the deceased. A number of miners and others contributed towards a defence fund. He was a Primitive Methodist local preacher, Sunday school superintendent, and class leader. He leaves a widow and ten children. The eldest

son who is styled "The Isle of Axholm Bone-setter," who succeeded his father in North Lincolnshire sixteen years ago, is well known for his bone-setting skill. A daughter has also assisted her father up to his death. The funeral of Mr. Cranidge took place in Swinton Churchyard on March 25. The "buzzers" at all the collieries blew on Tuesday to notify a holiday on Wednesday, to give the pitmen an opportunity to follow their friend to his resting-place. When the funeral proceeded through Kilnhurst and Swinton the streets were crowded with people, who manifested the deepest sorrow. Many of the deceased's old friends travelled long distances to be present at the interment. There were many beautiful and costly wreaths. A few days before his death Mr. Cranidge told his family he should leave them all on the Sunday following.

**KARLOWA.**—Mr. Otto Karlowa, who was formerly manager to the drug-firm of Domeier & Co., died at his residence at Lewisham on March 31, aged 56. He had been ill for several years.

**PRENTICE.**—At 53 Dick Place, Edinburgh, on March 31, Margaret, second daughter of Mr. John Prentice, chemist, Nicolson Street, Edinburgh.

**SMITH.**—On March 22, Mr. Morgan Smith, chemist and druggist, Aberdare. Aged 41.

**SUTTON.**—On March 29, Mr. Samuel Sutton, chemist and druggist, Stoke Road, Gosport.

## Wills of Deceased Chemists.

The will with two codicils of Mr. Alfred Squire, of the late firm of Barron, Squire & Co., wholesale druggists, Bush Lane, who died on February 23 last, has been proved by Mr. Francis Morton, Queen Victoria Street, and Mr. Dennis Brown Squire, 1 Thurlow Road, Hampstead, testator's nephew. The gross personalty of the deceased amounts to 18,988*l.* 14*s.* 1*d.*, and the net to 18,950*l.* 10*s.* 9*d.*

The will with four codicils of Mr. W. C. Barnes, manufacturing chemist, of Hackney Wick, and Oak Hall, Buckhurst Hill, who died on April 27 last, has been proved by Mr. Henry James Barnes, Mr. Francis Ernest Barnes, the Rev. Charles Edward Barnes, the sons, and Mr. William Augustus Mitchell, the executors, by whom the value of the testator's personalty is sworn at 71,356*l.*

The late Mr. Thomas William Linton Hind, of the Hollies, Kendal, chemist and druggist, who died on December 5, 1895, having omitted to name an executor in his will, letters of administration to his estate, with the will annexed, have been granted to his widow, Mrs. J. E. Hind, she being the deceased's residuary legatee. The gross personalty amounts to 5,219*l.* 3*s.* 1*d.*, and the net to 333*l.* 7*s.* 3*d.*

The will and codicil of Mr. Albert J. Caley, chemist and druggist retired, The Grove, Norwich, who died on June 1, 1895, has been proved by Mr. Edward J. Caley, of Eaton, Mrs. Amy Marion Alpe, the son and daughter, and Mr. Frederick Wm. Caley, of Eaton, a nephew of the testator. The personalty amounts to 22,127*l.* 12*s.* 4*d.* gross and 21,500*l.* 1*s.* 3*d.* net.

The will of Mr. Joseph Layne Quibell, chemist and druggist, of Gainsborough, who died on November 1, has been proved at the Principal Probate Registry, by Mrs. Clara Quibell, of 30 Great Portland Street, the testator's widow and sole executrix. The personalty amounts to 275*l.*

The late Mr. David Gibson Milligan, chemist and druggist, West End, Haltwhistle, having died intestate on February 26 last, letters of administration to his estate have been granted to his widow, Mrs. Ellen Milligan, by whom deceased's personalty is sworn at 481*l.* 16*s.* 3*d.*

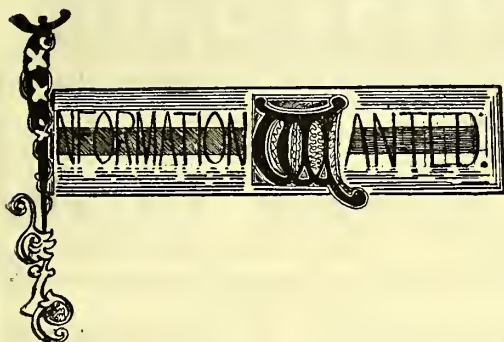
The will of Mr. R. Donington, of Spalding, chemist and druggist, who died September 5, 1895, has been proved in London by Mrs. Emma H. Donington, the widow, Mr. Robt. Spenoer Donington, chemist, and Mr. Geo. Caultere Donington, student, the sons, Mr. John Wm. Hearnshaw, chemist, Spalding, and Mr. Arthur D. Hearnshaw, chemist, Leicester, the executors, by whom the value of the testator's personalty is sworn at 3,520*l.* 16*s.* 6*d.*



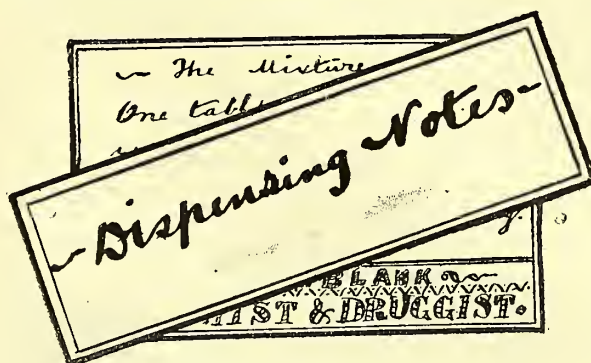
## The Art of Pharmacists.

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THE YORKSHIRE RELISH CASE.

WE are not in the least disposed to criticise or carp at the decision of the Court of Appeal in the Yorkshire Relish case recorded last week. Lord Justice Lindley's judgment set out in clear relief and with great force the claims of commercial justice, and we do not think he and his col-



leagues could have come to any other conclusion than that at which they arrived without absolute unfairness. But we cannot get away from the fact that this judgment and others analogous to it have knocked the bottom out of the Trade-marks Act.

Before trade-marks were dealt with by statute law every application for an injunction to restrain the imitation of one was considered on its merits alone. If a man could prove that he had created a property in a title or a mark, and could satisfy a Court that someone else was making an unfair use of that title or mark, he got his injunction. In those days there would have been little doubt about Messrs. Goodall, Backhouse & Co.'s claim to the exclusive right of describing their sauce as Yorkshire Relish. We doubt even if anybody would have ever challenged that right. The sale of something like a hundred millions of bottles of sauce under the title would be sufficient to assure any Court that the vendors had created a property in it, and the infringement of that property in the case just decided was not disputed.

But under the Trade-marks Act the defendants' counsel argued plausibly enough that there could be no monopoly in the title. The name simply had been on the Trade-marks Register and was struck off. The Leeds firm failed to satisfy the Court that they had used it by itself before 1875, and they could not therefore enjoy the benefit of the "old marks" privilege; while the amending Act of 1888 "prevents the registration of any geographical name as a new trade-mark. Therefore the Birmingham Vinegar Brewery Company supposed and maintained that as the law said this title was not registered and was not registrable, it was common property. That was undoubtedly the object aimed at by the mercantile community when, a quarter of a century ago, they clamoured for a statutory trade-marks registry. They said we want a simple and ready way of ascertaining what titles may be used and what may not be used, and they fancied in their innocence that this register was going to give them the facility they wanted.

So it does in a sense. With cruel irony, Lord Justice Lindley says the title is common; anybody may use it; you, defendants, are quite correct in your assumption that you may use it; but you must take care to use it in such a way that you do no injustice either to the public or to Goodall, Backhouse & Co., and if it should prove impossible to use it in this way (as his Lordship clearly thought it was), why, then, so much the worse for you. Lord Herschell gave a corresponding judgment in the fruit-salt case. The title, he said in effect, is taken off the register, so anybody can use it; but if anybody uses it for any article into the composition of which this article of Mr. Eno's may conceivably enter, the public, which only knows "fruit-salt" through Mr. Eno's advertisements, is liable to be deceived, and Mr. Eno himself injured. Make a fruit salt umbrella if you like, said Lord Herschell, but we cannot let you make a fruit-salt baking-powder. And *à fortiori*, we presume, the Court would grant an injunction against anyone who should make a medicine under that name. So that, from this point of view, Mr. Eno has got as good a trade-mark as if it were a registrable one.

Again we say it is right that this should be so. It is right that manufacturers of sauces, soaps, salts, or pills should have the property which they have built up by the expenditure of hundreds of thousands of pounds protected against infringements. Only, as we have already asked, what good is the Trade-marks Act, except to lawyers? We have had long and interesting cases to test what may, and what may not, be registered, before any infringement was even alleged, and it has probably more than doubled the

litigation which associates itself with trade-marks. But it gives nobody a secure property. Still less does it ensure that safety for the unwary which it at first pretended to give.

The growing tendency of the Courts to protect even descriptive titles is a feature of modern law which should be noted by traders. Not many years ago, when the hop-bitters litigation was proceeding, the counsel for the Hop Bitters Company expressly disclaimed any attempt to secure an exclusive property in that title. Now, not only are titles such as "fruit salt" and "Yorkshire Relish" practically protected, but in the camel-hair belting case, quoted and relied upon by Lord Justice Lindley, the House of Lords went farther still. Mr. Justice Stirling found that Yorkshire Relish was a fancy title, and Lord Justice Lindley said "the words convey no information whatever of the make or qualities." The inference was that if it had been descriptive it would not have been protected. But the House of Lords (overruling the Court of Appeal) granted an injunction to a firm who make "camel-hair belting" on evidence that that description had become known in the trade as their make. The restrained firm make belting of camel hair, but they are not allowed to so describe it. So that it would seem that any title whether descriptive or not, will be protected by the Courts if only a sufficient public reputation can be proved to have been created.

## THE PHARMACEUTICAL EXAMINATIONS.

THERE appears to be a disposition on the part of those who supervise the pharmaceutical examinations in England and Wales to herald a crisis therein, but why it is difficult to understand. In regard to the "Preliminary," Dr. Thomas Stevenson repeats what he has said before about the weakness of the candidates, adding, "The examination is an easy one, but as it is not necessary to pass it before commencing pharmaceutical study, it is too commonly put off till the last moment, with lamentable results." Unfortunately, we have no statistics whatever upon which we could corroborate or dispute this remark; but we have the impression that the larger proportion of those who pass the examination are boys just entering or recently entered upon their pharmaceutical career. The young men of twenty-five whom the President speaks of may be seen at every examination, but they are not numerous, and are not found at every centre. In view of probable application in the near future for more stringent conditions of limitation of entry, and, perhaps extension of the subjects of the examination, it would be advantageous if the Registrar would compile from his records a statement showing (1) the numbers of candidates of each year of age from 13 to 30; (2) the percentages of failures in the respective years; and (3) the influence of age upon frequency of failure. Meanwhile, it should be noted that the results are not getting worse, as a glance at the following table, covering the last five years, will show:—

	Examined	Failed	Latin	English	Arithmetic
1891 ..	1,442	761 or 52·8 per cent.	477 (62)	416 (54)	701 (92)
1892 ..	1,410	740 „ 52 „	492 (66)	477 (65)	633 (85)
1893 ..	1,472	715 „ 48 „	454 (63)	586 (81)	435 (60)
1894 ..	1,562	836 „ 53 „	519 (62)	409 (48)	791 (94)
1895 ..	1,468	760 „ 51 „	502 (66)	451 (59)	677 (88)

The figures under Latin, English, and arithmetic are the failures, and those in parentheses are the percentages of failures in the respective subjects calculated upon the total failures. Apparently 1895 was a fair average year, and there is no special reason for outcry at present. But there is in respect to the Minor examination, about which the Pharma-



ceutical Council have nothing to say, and their attention should be directed to the serious condition of things into which the examination, as conducted in London, is drifting. The following statistics cover five years, the first being under the old schedules, and the last two were conducted with the help of professional examiners. The parenthetical figures represent percentages calculated upon the total failures:—

Examined	Failed	Chemistry	Botany
1891 993	597 or 59 p.c.	120 (20)	29 (4.8)
1892 707	460 „ 65 „	216 (46)	46 (10)
1893 833	550 „ 66 „	245 (44)	38 (6.9)
1894 1,002	637 „ 63 „	283 (44)	73 (11)
1895 772	552 „ 71 „	305 (55)	79 (14.3)

Materia Medica	Pharmacy	Prescription Reading	Dispensing and Practical Pharmacy
68 (11.3)	11 (17)	68 (11.3)	200 (33.5)
39 (8.4)	41 (9.3)	36 (8)	116 (25)
36 (6.5)	39 (7)	52 (9.4)	127 (23)
49 (7.6)	221 (36)	53 (8.3)	169 (26)
42 (7.6)	—	34 (6.1)	212 (38.4)

The first column of figures is the most significant of the lot, since it shows a remarkable diminution of the number of candidates examined in London. As Dr. Stevenson's figures cover the year ending March, we now take the figures from the Registrar's reports and find that in 1891, of the total Minor candidates examined 29 per cent. went to Edinburgh, in 1893 the number had increased to 31 per cent., and in 1895 to 37 per cent. The last two examinations show a still further migration to Edinburgh, for in October, 1895, 113 were examined there and 116 in London, and in January of this year 165 in Edinburgh and 187 in London. Certain facts which we published recently have clearly indicated that it is the increased stringency of the chemistry examination beyond the official limits which is chiefly responsible for this course, and the alarming increase in failures in that subject supports this view. We understand that it is part of the Privy Council visitor's duty to see that candidates get fair play, and we think that Dr. Stevenson should give this matter his special attention. The Pharmaceutical Society publishes schedules of the examination subjects in which it is clearly stated what candidates will be examined in. It is asserted that the chemistry examiners give candidates work which is not specified in the schedules, and we believe there is good ground for the assertion, so far as volumetric work is concerned. If this course is not checked the results will be detrimental to the interests of the drug-trade and the safety of the public, because higher development in chemistry may lower the standard of knowledge in the other five subjects, each and all of which are of equal practical importance to the dispensing chemist. We think it exceedingly disappointing that the wholesome effect which the new schedules had in doubling the period of tuition at schools of pharmacy, and in improving that tuition, should be so quickly discounted by the action of a few examiners. With the Pharmaceutical Council's desire to raise the qualifications of chemists and druggists we fully sympathise; they are the responsible body in such matters, and the new conditions which they imposed five years ago with the sanction of the Privy Council were all for the best. Candidates and teachers have promptly adapted themselves to these conditions, but they find that they have also to reckon with unauthorised conditions imposed by examiners. Undoubtedly the student of pharmacy of to-day is a better educated and trained man than his predecessor of a decade since, yet he finds it increasingly difficult to prove his competence. Originally the examination was overloaded with subjects, but since every one of these has been extended in scope far beyond the original intention, it is too much to expect candidates to attack unset problems, or with the plethora of mnemonic work to have brains trained to reason on scientific things.

## COUNT MATTEI.

COUNT CESARE MATTEI, who died on Tuesday at his castle near Bologna, will probably be ranked by posterity among the cleverest proprietary-medicine pushers of the nineteenth century. Had he been born a Britisher or an American, instead of an Italian, his blue and yellow electricities would certainly have been catchwords on our hoardings and in our newspapers. But Fate placed Mattei's cradle in a country where the advertiser is content with less ambitious and expensive efforts than among Anglo-Saxon nations, and therefore the Count's name never attained that familiarity with the Man in the Street in which, say, Mr. Cornelius Harness, that other distinguished "electrician," once rejoiced. Mattei, however, was not without his apostles and impresarios in this country. Among the former the first was Dr. Acworth, of Brighton, a homœopathic physician of



standing and repute, who, as far back as 1870, gave a glowing description of the Count and his cures in the *British Journal of Homœopathy*. Lady Paget, the wife of a former British Ambassador at Vienna, was another. She believed her husband to have been cured from cancer by the Mattei remedies, and, in 1890, testified accordingly in the *National Review*. It is only necessary to add that Lady Paget's text was taken up by Mr. W. T. Stead, the versatile editor of the *Review of Reviews*, to account for the Mattei boom which occurred some five years ago. Mr. Stead went to see the Count at his Castle of La Rochetta, and published a long and extremely readable, if somewhat hysterical, article about him in his journal. He also tried to enlist the aid of Professors Huxley, Tyndall, Ray Lankester, and others in favour of a scheme for trying the alleged cancer-cures, but no favourable results were attained, and to this day Count Mattei occupies a somewhat uncertain niche among Mr. Stead's idols alongside of Julia, the Drunkenness-cure Man, and others of that kidney.



The history of the Mattei remedies, as gleaned from the reports of the late Count's admirers, bears a somewhat disappointing resemblance to the familiar story of the genesis of other nostrums all over the world. The Count, it appears, was born eighty-seven years ago, the scion of one of the wealthiest houses in Bologna. In his youth he drained the cup of pleasure to the dregs, but he was snatched from a career of dissipation in the nick of time "by a single word from Paolo Costa, Poet and Philosopher." Thenceforward Mattei trod the path of piety, offered to present one of his castles to the Pope, and was made a Count by his Holiness in return. At the age of forty he retired to a country seat, and began to devote himself to the study of "agriculture, botany, and chemistry," and one fine day, in the words of Mr. Stead, "he tumbled upon the discovery with which his name is now identified." "A dog, afflicted with a peculiarly loathsome mange, used to relieve itself by hunting out and eating a herb that grew on the spurs of the Apennines. Count Mattei took the leaves of the herb, distilled their essence, and then tried the product on a human patient suffering from scrofula." Need we add that the results were marvellous, and that the Count succeeded, "by degrees," in compounding "some eight or ten medicines and five electricities, with which he treats all manner of diseases." Mr. Stead, under the influence, it would seem, of the electric fluid, thus describes the Mattei treatment:—"The grand secret is the fixing in the remedy of a mysterious something which he calls the electrical principle. This, he asserts, is the vital principle of the universe, and, as far as I could make out, is cousin-german to the astral fluid of the occultists, or the strange etheric force of Keeley. Count Mattei, however, knows nothing of the astral force, or of Keeley's motor. He simply maintains that he knows how to make herbal decoctions instinct with a potent, vital, electrical force, which enables them to work wonders. That they do work wonders in many cases seems to be beyond all doubt. How they do it no one explains but the Count. His explanation is that their power is derived from this fixing of the electrical principle."

The gem of Mr. Stead's article is the following childlike and bland sentence:—"Count Mattei is a zealous propagandist of Matteism. If he had his way he would administer one of his phials every year to every individual on this planet, and it is his honest opinion, which he expresses with a childlike frankness, that the human race would be immensely benefited by such an administration."

From another source it appears that the ordinary medicines (those for internal application) are respectively cures for catarrhal and bronchial affections, intermittent fever, cardiac affections, venereal complaints, &c. The principal of them all, upon which the "fame" of the Mattei treatment chiefly rests is the *Anti-canceroso*, which is claimed to have effected marvellous cancer-cures. But the five external remedies—the so-called "electricities"—throw the others entirely in the shade. They, like the "internal" series, are, of course, secret remedies—the Count, for some alleged philanthropic motive, having always declined to reveal the process of their manufacture. The utmost he has revealed concerning them is that they are all of the same base, but of different intensity, distinguished by colour, the yellow variety being the "most powerful," and that their intensity of action is due to the remedies being, in some way, incorporated with "liquid electricity," an explanation which leaves something to be desired from a scientific standpoint. So far as we are aware, analysis has failed to reveal any other ingredient in the "electricities" than water. The Count's secret, whatever it may have been, is not likely to have descended to the grave with him, for,

though a nobleman, a philanthropist, and a philosopher, Mattei was also a good business-man, and there is still a mint of money in the electricity-business, which will probably provide a comfortable competence to Signor Venturoli Mattei, the Count's adopted son. It is stated that at first Mattei was in the habit of giving his remedies away to all comers, but for many years he has made a regular trade of their sale—100*l.* per litre, we believe, is the wholesale market quotation for his bottled electricity—and he has lived on a constant war-footing with the qualified medical men of his country. Mr. Stead, indeed, relates that his castle is approached by a steel drawbridge, where every visitor is challenged and closely scanned, and that a revolver and sword were always within the Count's reach, in order to protect him from the murderous plots of the medical faculty, of which he was ever in dread. Drawbridge, sword, and pistol may have been stage-properties pertaining to the concern, but they were probably effective in attracting customers, and, at any rate, they shed a melodramatic lustre upon the medicine-business.

#### SAFFRON AND THE B.P.

The *Indian Medical Record* states that the Pharmacopœia Committee "have decided to omit saffron from the new edition of the B.P., and to exclude that drug from any preparations which have hitherto contained it. This was decided upon in deference to the wishes of certain representations which came from Indian practitioners."

#### THE TENBURY SALE-OF-POISONS CASE.

We are informed that the report of the case at Tenbury, in which it was stated that an unregistered person had been fined by the Magistrates for selling poisons, on which we commented a fortnight ago, was incorrect. There were two charges—one under the 15th section, and another under the 17th section of the Pharmacy Act, 1868, for selling one shilling's worth of strychnine without labelling it as required by that section. Both cases were heard together, but the prosecution did not ask for more than one conviction, which will, we are informed, be recorded in respect of the charge under section 17. The defendant was fined the bare costs, which amounted to 3*l.* 10*s.*

#### "THE MORAL OF THE WHOLE THING."

The *Soapmaker and Perfumer* is trying to make capital out of our recent comments on transactions in citronella oil by asking its readers to pay a small fee and have their analyses done in "the *S. & P.* Laboratory," whatever that may be. This is very clever of the *S. & P.*, but it would have been better if it had not written about essential oils "in the light of modern research" in the same issue, for thereby it gives itself away. According to the *S. & P.* writer, oil of cassia "rarely contains 70 per cent. or over of cinnamic aldehyde," and oil of cinnamon is richer in the aldehyde than oil of cassia, while the specific gravity of the cinnamon oil is 1.055 to 1.065, which, with much more erroneous information, suggests to us that the *S. & P.* has got as mixed about cassia and cinnamon oils as the figures are. So we do not deduce a "moral of the whole thing" of quite the same kind as the *S. & P.*'s, and if the small-fee laboratory has anything to do with the articles about essential oils "in the light of modern research," we should want to feel confident that, *e.g.*, a cinnamon-oil certificate was not based upon cassia oil, or *vice-versâ*, before we took it to be worth even "a small fee."

#### THE SHOPS (EARLY-CLOSING) BILL.

The opponents of this measure in the House of Commons are disposed to make a last vigorous attempt to resist it in the Assembly. The discussion on the Committee's report is



down for next Wednesday, when an attempt will be made to have it re-committed. This proposal will open up the question of the principle of the Bill, which the House agreed to on the second reading. In anticipation of the re-committal, notice of a large number of amendments has been given. It will be observed that Sir J. B. Maple sends us a concise statement of the case against the Bill, and asks all tradesmen who wish to see it defeated to write to their parliamentary representative to that effect. Of course there is nothing to prevent those who wish a contrary result writing also.

#### A TYPICAL ARBITRATION-CASE.

The following is a typical Mincing Lane arbitration-case which was brought under our notice some time ago. We refer to it now in view of the questions that have arisen as to the advantages or otherwise of the system. Some time ago A, a well-known drug-importer, sold through B, a Mincing Lane broker, several parcels of oil of red thyme to C, a merchant. The drug-importer's contract contained the words, "for delivery as required by you" (*i.e.*, the buyer). For a time all went well, but finally the concern to whom C had been in the habit of selling the oil suddenly ceased to require any more. A parcel of 25 cases, however, had already been bought by him through the brokers on contract, and was tendered by A to B, who in turn asked C to pay and take delivery of it. "Not a bit of it," said C. "The contract states: for delivery as required by you. I do not now require the oil, and I decline to accept it or pay for it until I do, which probably will be never." As A declined to hold over his oil *ad calendas Græcas* he went to arbitration with B, the broker, whom he held responsible as principal. The arbitrators found in favour of A, on the ground that oil of thyme is an article produced in yearly crops, and that the evident intention of the contract was that delivery should be taken between crop and crop—*i.e.*, between June and June of each year—although nothing to that effect was stated. They therefore ordered the broker to accept the oil and pay for it, but "in order to mark their disapprobation of the loose way in which A's contract was worded," they condemned A, in whose favour they had found to pay both his own and his antagonist's costs of arbitration.

#### WOMEN PHARMACISTS.

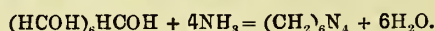
The *Windsor Magazine* for March contains the article inevitable to all new magazines, recommending the profession of pharmacy to young women. Miss (or Mrs.) Edith Julia Bain is the authoress, and the only noteworthy thing about her contribution is the title. She heads her article "At the Sign of the Coloured Bottles," which is clever, and it is quaintly set out by Sidney Cowell, though why he should make his bottles bear the mystic letters I O U we do not exactly understand. Edith writes as if people were despotically trying to prevent women from being pharmacists—a fancy which has been run for all it is worth. If anything would bring women into the drug-trade that subtle attraction ought to be successful, but it does not seem to be. Miss Bain sets forth the curriculum correctly, dropping the examinations in at the right places, and accurately quoting the fees. She reckons that from first to last it will cost a girl 100% to get qualified. In the early part of her article she says the profession of chemist is arduous and badly paid; towards the end she says, "in comparison with other professions, women chemists are not badly paid. Several dispensers are in receipt of 80% or 100% a year." The new fashion in drug-stores, Miss Bain tells us—and this is news—was imported from America—a consideration which, if true, will not make the Venezuelan negotiations any the easier.

OL. THEOBROMÆ adulterated with petrolatum has been found on the Continent. It has a lower melting-point than the real thing, and is milky when melted.

## Urotropine: a New Uric-acid Solvent.

By H. COLLIER.

SOME years ago lithium salts came into use in the treatment of acute and chronic gout, to promote the elimination of urate of soda from the blood and tissues. Their introduction appears to have been due to the observation that, as compared with potash or soda, a smaller amount of lithia suffices to form a soluble salt with uric acid, and that this salt is more readily soluble in water, than the corresponding potassium or sodium salts. Lithium salts, therefore, must be valuable remedies when it is desirable to keep uric acid in solution during its transit through the urinary organs, or prevent its deposition in the structures of the body. Louis Siebold (*Year-book of Pharmacy*, page 412, 1889) has clearly shown that the fame of lithium salts rests on no solid foundation, but is based on misconceptions both chemical and medical, and that the superiority of lithium salts as remedies in calculus, gout, &c., appear to be much overrated. Of late years a number of organic substances, such as lycetol, lysidia, tetra-ethyl-ammonium hydroxide and piperazin, which in watery solution possess the power of dissolving uric acid, have been given internally on the presumption that they would also dissolve uric acid in the system. Piperazin appears to have enjoyed the greatest repute, for it will dissolve twelve times as much uric acid as lithium carbonate, and the urate formed is soluble in much less water. Dr. John Fawcett (*Guy's Hospital Reports*, Vol. 51, 1894) has investigated the solvent power of piperazin upon uric-acid calculi and the value of it in gout. The results of his experiments show that in gout it neither relieves the pain nor does it increase the uric-acid elimination. Dr. Fawcett says that "it is very expensive, and so, as it does not appear to possess any greater value, but rather less, than the drugs already recognised in the treatment of gout, I can see no indication for continuing its use further." Urotropine is the last addition to our stock of uric-acid solvents. It has been brought forward by A. Nicolalier ("Ueber die therapeutische Verwendung des Urotropine," *Deutsch. Med. Wochenschrift*, 1895), who states that it not only dissolves uric acid in watery solution, but the urine of patients taking it possesses also the same solvent action. Urotropine is chemically hexamethylene-tetramide. It is obtained by the combination of formic aldehyde with ammonia, as represented by the following equation:—



This new remedy has been administered to adults in doses of 6 grammes daily without producing any ill effects. It increases the flow of urine, and under its influence no deposit is formed of uric acid or urates, not because diuresis is increased, but because the medicine acts in some special way of its own upon the salts of uric acid. According to the author, urotropine is particularly adapted to the treatment of stone, for the urine of patients after the administration of this drug possesses a solvent action upon uric acid. The ordinary dose is 1 to 1½ gramme taken in the morning, dissolved in water.

It has also been observed that as a consequence of the use of urotropine the micro-organisms of the ammoniacal fermentation and the bacterium coli do not develop in the urine, and therefore this substance could be employed in microbic diseases of the urethra. It appears to have been used in two cases of cystitis where the urine was strongly ammoniacal, and very excellent results were obtained.

Guy's Hospital, S.E.

SHE LIKED IT PLAIN.—An old lady, who was in the habit of buying gentian from a chemist, was presented on Christmas Eve with a packet of sachet-powder in addition. A week or two later, when she returned for more gentian, she said, "Don't give me the kind with the flavouring in it. It was very kind of you to give me the sample, and no doubt it is better; but personally I like it plain." Further inquiry elicited the fact that she had dutifully swallowed the whole of the sachet-powder, under the impression that it was gentian specially flavoured and given her to sample.



## Practical Notes and Formulæ.

### BEST MENSTRUUM FOR COCA.

MR. L. F. KEBLER, of Philadelphia, claims that a 65-per-cent. alcoholic menstruum extracts the alkaloids better than U.S.P. diluted alcohol in making the fluid extract, and a moderately fine powder is better than a very coarse one.

### LANOLIN ROSE-CREAM FOR THE HAIR.

MELT together  $2\frac{1}{2}$  oz. of lanolin, and 6 cz. of almond oil; then add a mixture of 6 dr. of soap dissolved in 15 cz. of water and 3 oz. of rose-water. Make an emulsion by diligent agitation, perfume to taste, and put up in collapsible tubes.

### SOLUTION FOR REMOVING SILVER SPOTS.

	Grammes
Bichloride of mercury .. ..	5
Muriate of ammonia .. ..	5
Distilled water .. ..	40

This removes almost instantaneously even ancient stains on linen, cotton, or wool. Skin-stains, thus treated, become whitish-yellow and soon disappear.—F. HAHN, in *Mntsch. f. Prakt. Derm.*

### MOUSTACHE-WAX.

Burgundy pitch .. ..	3j.
Almond oil .. ..	3j.
Violet pomade .. ..	3iij.
Peruvian balsam .. ..	3ss.

Melt together, strain, and add—

Oil of sandalwood .. ..	℥xij.
Oil of cinnamon .. ..	℥viiij.

Mix, and pour into moulds.

### DR. JACKSON'S SULPHUR CREAM.

Cera alb. .. ..	3j.
Ol. petrolat. .. ..	3v.
Aq. rosæ .. ..	3iiss.
Sod. bicorbat. .. ..	gr. xxxvj.
Sulphur .. ..	3vij.

M.

Sig.: Apply night and morning.

This is a good preparation for treating scurf, and the hair falling off in consequence.

### MISTURA STOKESII.

THERE was a query in the *Phar. Zeit.* as to what this mixture is, and it brought three formulæ. We quote them in the original style as curiosities:—

Morph. hydrochlor. .. ..	0.05
Aq. laurocer. .. ..	5.0
Sir. amygdalar., .. ..	
Mucil. Gi. arab. .. ..	āā 30.0
Aq. destill. .. ..	80.0

M.

Vitelli ovi .. ..	II
Cognac .. ..	50.0
Aq. cinamoni .. ..	120.0
Sir. simpl. .. ..	30.0

M.

A teaspoonful thrice daily.

Ol. tereb., .. ..	
Aq. .. ..	āā 50.0
Vitelli ovi I .. ..	
Ol. lini .. ..	5.0

M.

For external use.

The second formula is mist. spt. vini gallic. co.; the third St. John Long's liniment, or a modification of it, the writer putting ol. lini for ol. limonis—a pardonable error for a German. What the first recipe is we do not know. Stokes's liniment is still mysterious. St. John Long's is generally given for it. What was the original?

### KADSURA PERFUME.

	Parts
Extract of rose, crude .. ..	2,000
" jasmine .. ..	2,000
" orange .. ..	500
" violets .. ..	500
" orris .. ..	300
Tincture of musk-pod ( <i>Moschus bentel</i> ) ..	300
" musk .. ..	100
" tonca-bean .. ..	150
" American musk .. ..	70
" vanilla .. ..	50
" cinchona .. ..	10
" styrax .. ..	10
Oil of bergamot .. ..	50
" lemon .. ..	50
Geranium oil .. ..	15
Patchouli oil .. ..	10
Sandalwood oil .. ..	8
Clove oil .. ..	5
Oil of neroli .. ..	6
" bitter almond .. ..	5
" wintergreen .. ..	5
" absinth .. ..	2
Absolute alcohol .. ..	300

Mix.

We quote this from the *National Druggist*, more as an example of intricate formulæ than on account of novelty.

### BREWED NON-EXCISABLE BEERS.

IN his recently issued little hand-book, Mr. J. Pocock mentions some interesting points regarding the brewing of non-excisable beers. Most recipes published for ginger-beer, &c., give one or other of the following proportions of sugar, &c.:—

#### No. 1.

Sugar .. ..	8 oz. (5 per cent.)
Yeast .. ..	5 dr.
Water .. ..	1 gallon

Ferment for thirty-six hours, commencing at 70°, but keeping the temperature later on at 60°.

#### No. 2.

Sugar .. ..	12 oz. (7.5 per cent.)
Yeast .. ..	1 oz.
Water .. ..	1 gallon

Let it work for twelve hours, and then bottle.

#### No. 3.

Sugar .. ..	1 lb. (10 per cent.)
Yeast .. ..	$\frac{1}{2}$ oz.
Water .. ..	1 gallon

Strain as soon as fermentation is brisk, and ferment again slowly for a day or two.

#### No. 4.

Sugar] .. ..	1½ lb. (12.5 per cent.)
Yeast .. ..	$\frac{1}{2}$ oz.
Water .. ..	1 gallon.

Strain and keep at 80° until a brisk fermentation is excited, and ferment slowly for a day or two.

Although the flavouring-matters usually added, such as hops and ginger, play an important part in the work of fermentation, they are of no practical importance in regard to the limitation of the alcohol. Nos. 1 and 2 are for brewing beers of the hop-beer type, whilst Nos. 3 and 4 are for the ordinary stone ginger-beer. Mr. Pocock had a report from the Somerset House Laboratory upon three samples of beer brewed in accordance with recipes Nos. 1 and 4: the former showed 3.2 per cent. and 3.9 per cent. of proof spirit, and the liquors had a specific gravity of 1000.18 and 1000.64 respectively, while No. 4 yielded 1.7 per cent. of proof spirit; the specific gravity of this last, however, was 1027.96, so that far more spirit would have been found in this sample had it remained in bottle for a few weeks longer. A sample of hop-bitters brewed according to No. 1 was found to contain 2.01 per cent. of proof spirit. We mention this note on account of the interesting fact, which some brewers overlook, that a beer may be made to contain a comparatively small proportion of spirit when bottled, but if fermentation is not stopped then the percentage may go far beyond the legal limit, and bring the retailer into trouble.



## Proprietary Articles Trade Association.

### COUNCIL MEETING.

THE monthly meeting of the Council was held at Anderson's Hotel on Wednesday. There were present Messrs. Barclay, Gilligan, Sutton & Co., Norris, Homoea Company, A. Hayman & Sons, Frame Food Company, Stephen Smith & Co., Whelpton & Sons, Sanger & Sons, Burroughs, Wellcome & Co., and Cooper, Kensington. Mr. Barclay took the chair. Messrs. Powell (Limited), proprietors of Powell's Balsam of Aniseed, were elected to the Manufacturers' Section of the Council, and Messrs. Lynch & Co. (Limited), Aldersgate Street, to the Wholesale Section. The report of the Executive Committee stated that the whole of the objects and plans of the Association had been submitted to counsel for legal opinion, which was expected in the course of a few days. It also stated that the Secretary had been instructed to convene a meeting of manufacturers in the grocery-trade with the view to concerted action in the direction of anti-cutting for their articles. The members of the Manufacturers' Section of the Association whose articles were largely distributed by grocers had been asked to sign a circular convening a meeting, and the following firms had consented:—Messrs. Bird, Birmingham, Bovril (Limited), Corneille, David & Co. (Liebig's Extract Company), Frame Food Company, and Stephen Smith & Co. (Hall's Coca Wine). It was decided that in addition to supporting the candidature of Mr. C. J. Park, Plymouth, for the ensuing election to the Pharmaceutical Council, that of Mr. A. S. Campkin, J.P., of Cambridge, be also supported.

### MEETING AT BRIXTON.

South London chemists met at the Gresham Hall, Gresham Road, Brixton, on Wednesday evening to discuss the anti-cutting question and listen to a deputation from the Proprietary Articles Trade Association, who were represented by Messrs. Glyn-Jones, Barclay, Norris, Gilligan, and A. Cooper (Kensington). The chair was taken at 9.45 P.M. by Mr. G. R. Barclay, who, in opening the meeting, briefly commented upon the evils of cutting, his opinion being that if anybody benefited by this cutting, it was the public—certainly not the wholesale distributor, retailer, or proprietor. Thanks to the energy of Mr. Johnston, of Loughborough Road, who had taken great interest in this matter, to the courtesy of the local committee, and to some members of the Proprietary Articles Trade Association, this meeting had been convened. Mr. Barclay referred to the notices which had appeared in the Press that chemists were not joining the Association in the way they were expected to do. The reason was that they held erroneous notions about the object of the Association. Some thought it was an affair got up in the interests of wholesale dealers, but that was quite a mistake. In fact, Mr. Glyn-Jones, who has taken great interest in the movement, is a retail chemist and a cutter against his will—not from choice. If the chemists were going to sit still and see what the Association was going to do before they joined it, it would never do anything at all, and nothing could be done without organisation. He reminded his hearers of the case of the match-girls some years ago, who showed what they could do by organisation when they marched to the House of Commons in a body to protest against the match-tax, in which they were successful. He concluded by asking for their support.

Mr. Johnston read a few letters which had been received from chemists, who regretted their inability to attend, and wishing success to the movement. One gentleman wrote that it was not from want of sympathy with the movement that he was unable to attend, but from the impossibility of leaving "this highly lucrative business." Notices had been sent to all chemists on the south side of the river and this resulted in an attendance of about fifty.

Mr. Gilligan (Corneille, David & Co.), as representing the manufacturers' side of the question, said they wished to show their good will to the retail trade, that being the reason his firm had joined the Association. He impressed upon them the necessity of joining, and not to say, "We will join later on," as so many of them had said. If everybody watched what his neighbour was going to do, nothing would be done, and the thing would pass off. He was pleased to say that the

membership of the Association had increased. When he first joined it was between fifty and sixty, now it was 400, and a great deal of this was due to the energy of Mr. Glyn-Jones. There was no reason why the membership should not go to 4,000. Referring to the cutting of their own articles, he said, they had had two or three cases brought under their notice, and with the aid of the Association they had been able to stop it. If the manufacturers could compete with success, surely manufacturers together combined could do a good deal more. He had no doubt of the ultimate success of the Association if they had the support of the chemists. He hoped the meeting that night would influence the traders of the country to join the Association. He had spoken personally to two or three manufacturers, but they wanted to see what the retail chemists were going to do before they (the manufacturers) joined.

Mr. Norris (Condal Water Company) also advocated the claims of the Association. He said the worst people to deal with were chemists. They would sign an agreement, and afterwards would not keep to it. The apathy of the chemist was simply stupendous, and it was egregious folly on his part to hold aloof from the Association. Several of the large proprietors had been approached, but they all said the same thing—that they did not see it was to their interest to join while the membership was such a small one. If only two-thirds of the chemists could be induced to join, the manufacturers would be pleased to entertain the idea. Every chemist who joined would be a leverage to work upon the others, and he instanced the success they had met with at Bristol, Plymouth, Exeter, Cambridge, and in South London. The Grocers' Federation were anxious to join the movement, and he knew a good many grocers who had done so. Referring to profits he thought 25 per cent. was a fair one, and if the chemist had that it would not be worth while to substitute.

Mr. Glyn-Jones, who was referred to as "Peter the Hermit up to date," said this was a burning subject, and that the majority of them were at their wit's end to know what attitude to take up. He thought there were methods which the chemist could adopt. (1) He could stick out for full prices. He called yesterday upon a gentleman in reference to this meeting, and asked him if he was coming. "Oh, no," said he, "13½d. is my price; if you don't like it there's the door. That's me." Mr. Glyn-Jones was very glad to hear of such cases, but if he tried that game his creditors would soon show him the door. There might be men in a position to snap their fingers at the patent-medicine trade, but there were at least 90 per cent. who were bound to sell patent medicines. (2) The next method was the get-what-you-can system. Sometimes 13½d. was charged, sometimes 1s., and 10½d. would also be taken; but unless a man was gifted with a good memory he would get into trouble with his customers very often. He did not believe in the policy of having two prices. (3) Substitution was another method adopted; it was a system of trade distasteful to him, and it required a great deal of tact to do it without offending the customer. Substitution was the ground upon which they appealed to the manufacturers. If they would prevent cutting, in all probability they would do a great deal to prevent substitution. Mr. Elliman had succeeded in perfecting a scheme. Surely half-a-dozen, a dozen, or twenty—the more the better—had a far better chance of carrying out such a plan. A difficulty in working this Association was the danger of coming within the law of conspiracy. They had asked one or two leading counsel to advise them upon their methods and plans, and they were expecting to have their opinions in two or three days.

Mr. Johnston, in moving a resolution, spoke in much the same strain as Mr. Glyn-Jones. They were not all agreed as to the methods to adopt, but if they waited until the millennium, or three days after, for that consummation, they would not be any nearer their goal. Some years ago he had tried to educate the manufacturers, but nothing came of it, but now the prospects were brighter. He advised the chemists to write to the manufacturers and induce them to join. There were a few sitting on the fence, uncertain on which side to drop. He could name several. The resolution was as follows:—

This meeting of South London chemists is of opinion that in the case of proprietaries on which a profit of about 25 per cent. and upwards is guaranteed, substitution is no longer a necessity; but that in



cases where owners will not stop the cutting of their articles, the retailer's only remedy is to push his own articles on every possible occasion. We hereby resolve that we will not exhibit any show-cards or distribute any literature relating to patent medicines, &c., the proprietors of which do not guarantee to us a reasonable profit on the same. On the other hand, we undertake to give our cordial support to goods on which a living profit is assured, providing the quality is such as will justify our recommendation. We take this opportunity of declaring it as our opinion that if wholesalers heartily co-operate in the movement to put down extreme cutting, they too should receive improved remuneration for their services.

Mr. Robinson seconded the resolution, which was carried by a large majority.

Mr. Wilson moved—

That we, an assembly of South London chemists, hereby declare our approval of the present anti-cutting movement, which we regard as beneficial to the interests of both owners and distributors of proprietary articles. Believing that "union is strength," we respectfully advise those proprietors who have not yet joined the defensive combination now being formed in connection with the Proprietary Articles Trade Association, 2 Stonecutter Street, E.C., to lose no time in doing so, and we pledge ourselves to use all honourable means in our power to further the progress of that Association.

This was seconded by Mr. Pond, and was also carried by a large majority.

In the discussion which ensued, one gentleman wished to know whether such firms as Parke's Drug Stores, &c., had been approached. Mr. Glyn-Jones replied that extreme cutters had not been asked to join, for the reason that, candidly speaking, they would have to force the hands of such people through the manufacturers. If the manufacturers were convinced that it was to their interest to secure the good will of the legitimate traders, they would be careful to see where their goods went to. One speaker remarked that he thought the remedy worse than the disease. Twenty-five of those present joined the Association at the close of the meeting, which broke up at a late hour.

## Personalities.

MR. A. H. MASON's appointment as Secretary *pro tem.* of the New York College of Pharmacy has been confirmed by the annual meeting.

MR. THISELTON DYER, F.R.S., the Director of Kew Gardens, is to receive the honorary degree of LL.D. from the Glasgow University.

MR. SAMUEL W. FAIRCHILD, on his retirement from the Presidency of the New York College of Pharmacy, has been presented by the College with "a nude figure of Diana," an exquisitely-modelled piece of sculpture by Roulard, of Paris.

To celebrate an uninterrupted connection with pharmacy for fifty-two years, Mr. Thomas Garratt Forshaw, M.P.S., of the firm of Forshaw & Snow, chemists, Bradford, was last week presented with a handsomely-chased gold watch bearing a suitable inscription, the gift of a few intimate friends.

PROFESSOR H. H. RUSBY, of New York, has gone to the Orinoco River, Venezuela, on a five months' trip. He is acting for a company of Western capitalists who have secured a concession of lands from the Venezuelan Government, and although gold-digging is their main object, they have also a desire to find out what drugs can be profitably produced there; hence the Professor's engagement.

In notifying Professor Dunstan's appointment on the staff of the Imperial Institute *Nature* states that "the principal work of the scientific department is to investigate new or little-known products from India and the colonies, and to advise in reference to their commercial utilisation. Already much valuable work has been accomplished in this direction. With the aid of an increased grant from the Royal Commissioners of the 1851 Exhibition further additions to the staff of the department will be made, and the laboratory, which was fitted up in 1894 with the assistance of a grant from the Goldsmiths' Company, will now be considerably extended."

## New Companies.

**STAR BOTTLING COMPANY (LIMITED).**—Capital 7,500*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire and take over the business of patent stopper and capsule manufacturers carried on by Thomas Brooke and Arthur G. Levick, at 66 West Street, Sheffield, as "Brooke & Levick, late the Tasteless Stopper Company," to enter into an agreement with the said vendors, and to carry on the business of bottlers of ale, beer, stout, porter, hop-bitters, cider, wines, minerals, pickles, scents, &c. The regulations of Table "A" in most cases apply. Registered office, 8 Bank Street, Sheffield.

**BIRD & SON (LIMITED).**—Capital 80,000*l.*, in 10*l.* shares. Objects: To purchase or otherwise acquire and take over as a going concern the business carried on under the style or firm of "Bird & Son" at the Glamorgan Works, East Moors, Cardiff, and at the Imperial Wharf, Cardiff, to enter into an agreement for the purpose, and to carry on the business of oil importers and refiners, tar, resin, and ammonia distillers, manufacturers of alizarine, coal tar, colours, paints, varnishes, candles, soap, soap-powder, soda, blue, starch, chemicals, &c. The first directors are Robert Bird, Charles H. Bird, and Frederick G. Bird. Qualification, 1,000*l.* Remuneration, as the company may decide.

**GOLDING & CO. (LIMITED)**—Capital 1,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To carry on the business of chemists and druggists. The first subscribers (each with one share, with one exception) are:—Wm. Golding, 172 Albany Street, N.W., chemist's assistant; John J. Fleming, 2 Beckford Villas, Leyton, clerk; J. Thomas, 142 High Street, St. John's Wood, N.W., chemist; David L. Evans, 1 Church Street, St. John's Wood, N.W., chemist; Henry J. Jones, 172 Albany Street, N.W., chemist; Mrs. Elizabeth Golding, 172 Albany Street, N.W., widow of the late Wm. Golding, pharmaceutical chemist (100 shares); Ernest H. Meddeder, 18 Sandbrook Road, Stoke Newington, clerk. Registered without articles of association.

**S. KUTNOW & CO. (LIMITED).**—Capital 20,200*l.*, in 1*l.* shares (of which 200 are founders'). Objects: To enter into and carry into effect an agreement dated March 28, and made between Sigismund Kutnow, of the one part, and Walter H. Woolf (for the company), of the other part, and to carry on the business of merchants and dealers in and sellers of medicines and medicated articles. The first subscribers (each with 500 ordinary and 5 founders' shares) are:—H. Irwell, 24 Coleman Street, E.C., wool-broker; M. Lilienfeld, 21 Holborn Viaduct, E.C., merchant; H. Hayman, 3 Coleman Street, E.C., merchant; S. Strauss, 15 and 16 Holborn Viaduct, E.C., merchant; J. Pamp, 50 Holborn Viaduct, E.C., merchant; F. Bruch, 18 Austin Friars, E.C., merchant; L. Hirsch, Warrford Court, E.C., stockbroker, and four others. The first directors are Sigismund Kutnow, Martin Lilienfeld, Henry Hayman, and Siegfried Strauss. Qualification, 200*l.* Remuneration, 50*l.* each per annum, and 100*l.* for the chairman. Registered office, 66 Holborn Viaduct, E.C.

**H. B. LINSEED OIL COMPANY (LIMITED).**—Capital 40,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire the British and foreign patents of Professor Walter N. Hartley and William E. B. Blenkinsop, in respect of their inventions for manufacturing or refining pale or boiled oil, decolourising and thickening vegetable oil, and preparing liquid and solid driers, and the interest therein of the H. B. Oil Syndicate (Limited), to enter into an agreement with the said syndicate, and to carry on the business of oil refiners, manufacturers, merchants, exporters and importers, oil and colour men, dry-salters, chemists, druggists, distillers, &c. The first subscribers (each with one share) are:—J. C. Howley, 36 Greenside Road, Shepherd's Bush, W., secretary; H. W. Smith, 1 Prospect Place, Long Ditton, chemist; R. C. Heath, Myton Grange, Near Woolwich, solicitor; G. Miles, 34 Leppoc Road, Clapham, S.W., engineer; W. E. B. Blenkinsop, Garden Wharf, Battersea, S.W., manufacturing chemist; R. G. May, 1 Moorgate Place, E.C., solicitor; H. T. Smith, 22 Great Winchester Street, E.C., accountant. The first directors (to number not fewer than two nor more than five) are to be appointed by the subscribers. Qualification, 250*l.* Remuneration, 100*l.* per annum, to be divided between them.



## Trade Reports.

42 CANNON STREET, E.C., April 9.

THE produce-market has scarcely recovered from its closure during the holidays, and business on the whole has not been very brisk since our last report. This is especially the case in crude drugs, trade in chemicals being rather more satisfactory. The Board of Trade Returns issued to-day show an increase of not less than  $17\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. on the exports of British and Irish chemicals and chemical and medicinal preparations during the month of March, as compared with the same month of 1895, the figures being respectively 867,574*l.* and 739,269*l.* During the first quarters of the two years in question the figures were: 1896, 2,346,820*l.*; 1895, 2,015,412*l.* The general course of our foreign trade, as disclosed by the returns, also remains highly satisfactory, our total exports in March having been 20,422,419*l.* against 18,523,030*l.* in March, 1895. The total exports for the quarter amount to 61,233,043*l.* against 52,720,361*l.* in the first quarter of 1895, an increase of 16 per cent. In March there has been a slight decrease in our re-exports of foreign and colonial merchandise, which include, of course, the bulk of crude drugs; but on the quarter that department of trade shows a satisfactory increase, the figures being: 1896, 15,087,265*l.*; 1895, 13,141,681*l.* Our imports also continue to rise in value, the increase in March alone amounting to 7 per cent., and the total figures for the quarter being: 1896, 112,295,342*l.*; 1895, 100,837,860*l.* The principal features in the department of crude drugs are a firm market for all kinds of acacia and for ipecacuanha. Cod-liver oil steady but unchanged. Orris and balsam Peru somewhat easier. Jalap reported somewhat firmer. Insect-powder very firm. Crude camphor decidedly lower. Alexandrian senna dearer. Gum tragacanth and tonca beans are fairly well held, and in essential oils there are few changes. Citronella is easier. Star anise barely maintained. Oils of patchouli and limes (distilled) higher. Peppermint oils lower. In fine chemicals the principal alteration is a fresh decline in camphor and a re-arrangement of the mercurial-prices on a lower basis. Cream of tartar, citric and tartaric acids are barely steady. Quinine extremely quiet. In heavy chemicals there are no noteworthy changes. Drysalteries steady, with a slightly improved market for Madras turmeric. Shellac is firm, and Japan wax dearer. Spices are mostly quiet, but Sierra Leone chillies are higher, and black pepper for arrival is also quoted at firmer rates. At to-day's auctions of varnish-gums, Kauri was rather neglected but without change in price. Gums copal and animi slow of sale; olibanum neglected. The oil-market shows few alterations. Linseed oil a fraction higher. Rape oil unchanged. Cotton-seed oil slightly lower. Ceylon cocoa-nut oil has declined a shade on the spot, and turpentine is dearer, closing at 20*s.* 3*d.* for American on the spot, while petroleum oil remains unchanged. The Bank-rate still stands at 2 per cent., and bar-silver shows again a fractional advance to  $31\frac{3}{16}$ *d.* per *cz.*

Our Bergen correspondent wires on Thursday, April 9:—"The weather remains boisterous, and the Lofoten fishing Cod-liver Oil is drawing to a close. The total catch of fish, Telegram. so far, has been 31,000,000, against 54,000,000 at the corresponding time of 1895; the production of oil on the Norwegian coast aggregates 11,000 barrels, against 14,000 barrels last year. There has been a slight decline in the quotations, 21*s.* per barrel being now asked for best new non-freezing oil."

Our New York correspondent telegraphed on April 2 as follows:—"There have been no arrivals at all of *Copaiba* New York balsam lately; good qualities are now quoted Cablegrams. at  $31\frac{1}{2}$ *c.* per lb. *Tolu* balsam steady at 45*c.* per lb. The new crop of *Bayberry-bark* is arriving, and offers at 6*c.* per lb. *Sassafras* oil remains scarce and rather dearer at 40*c.* per lb. for good quality. *Peppermint* oil steady at unchanged rates. *Newfoundland Cod-liver* oil slightly weaker, and, although nominally unchanged in price, very slow of sale. There has been an improved demand for *Chicle* gum, which is now quoted at 35*c.* per lb., inside price. *Senega* root: dull of sale and offering at 22*c.* to 23*c.* per lb. fair quality." Our New York correspondent, telegraphing on Thursday morning, April 9, states:—"The drug-market generally is quiet. *Newfoundland Cod liver* oil has firmed up and is very scarce, but there is no change in price since my last cable. *Peppermint* oils are rather scarce and firmer. The stocks in the producing districts are said to be approaching exhaustion. *Tonca* beans very firmly held, with a strong feeling in the Angostura variety, which is quoted at \$2 50 for good frosted. Medicinal Balsams and Beeswax unchanged. *Opium* declining in value. Fair druggists' kind may now be had at \$1.95 per lb."

Our Hamburg correspondent telegraphs on Thursday afternoon that *Cod-liver* oil is easier, and could be bought somewhat below the quotations given in his Hamburg Telegram. market letter. *Camphor* is also declining, refined being now offered at 4*m.* per kilo.—a decline of 0.25*m.* on the week. All varieties of *Gum acacia* are unchanged, but firmly held with little business. *Opium* shows a steady market.

ACID (CHRY SOPHANIC) remains exceedingly scarce. One of the British manufacturers has a little to sell at 22*s.* per lb.

ARSENIC.—For *lump* arsenic, in kegs or barrels, 28*s.* per cwt. is now asked. *White powder* (English) is scarcely obtainable; holders require 24*s.* 6*d.* to 25*s.* per cwt.

BALSAMS.—*Copaiba* is very firmly held at 2*s.* 1*d.* to 2*s.* 2*d.* per lb. for fair to good *Maranhão*, dull to fair *Bahia* being quoted at from 1*s.* to 1*s.* 4*d.* per lb. *Balsam Peru* is rather easier, and might be had on the spot at from 7*s.* to 7*s.* 3*d.* per lb.

BISMUTH remains unchanged, although there are some impending rumours of an alteration in price. The arrivals of crude bismuth have lately been very heavy.

CAMPHOR (CRUDE).—Tending decidedly easier. For arrival much lower prices are quoted, but even at the reduced rates there does not appear to be any demand, the "Syndicate" not operating for the moment. *Formosa* camphor is being hawked about for arrival at 140*s.* per cwt., "c.i.f." terms, April-June shipment; *Japanese* at 160*s.* per cwt., "c.i.f." terms. These prices are getting perilously near the average cost of the Syndicate holdings, which is believed to be about 130*s.* per cwt.

CAMPHOR (REFINED).—The English manufacturers have again reduced their price by 2*d.* per lb., and now quote bells in half-ton lots at 1*s.* 11½*d.* per lb. The German makers have not yet announced a change, but it is almost certain that they will follow their competitors' move to-morrow.

CARDAMOMS.—In demand, and likely to advance further at next week's drug-auctions. It is said that for seed as much as 3*s.* per lb., c.i.f. terms, has been paid.

CORIANDE SEED.—Easier. *Mogador* offers at 12*s.*; ordinary *East Indian* at from 5*s.* to 7*s.* per cwt.

CREAM OF TARTAR is very dull, but last week's prices are pretty well maintained, best white *French* crystals offering at 90*s.* to 91*s.*, powder at 93*s.* per cwt.



GLYCERINE is tending easier. Manufacturers quote from 68s. per cwt. upwards for double-distilled sp gr. 1.260, and second-hand holders will take rather less.

GUM ACACIA.—All *East Indian* gums remain very firm. The new crop of *Cannopore* gum will be due here about the middle of May, and is expected to be large and of fine quality. *Ghatti* is arriving more freely, and the supplies are of good average quality. Not until next month, however, will it become clear whether the improved prices are likely to cause a great increase in the shipments from India. Fair *Turkey* sorts, partly dusty, are held for 82s. 6d. per cwt.; fine soft have sold at 90s. per cwt., and it is said that 95s. has been paid. *Ghatti* has sold at from 42s. 6d. for ordinary up to 70s. per cwt. for fine white. *Oomra* up to 65s. for pale. *Aden* at 65s. for fine, and 60s. per cwt. for good scented. Good *Brown Barbary* cannot be had below 60s. per cwt.

HONEY.—*Californian* of fine quality may be had at somewhat lower prices, the quotation in London being now 36s. per cwt. For good *Italian* 40s. is still asked.

INSECT FLOWERS.—Prices in Trieste are still continually advancing, but up to the present the English buyers do not seem to take much notice of the rise, and business has been very slight. The quotations range from 80s. to 90s. per cwt. for open, 90s. to 97s. 6d. for half-closed, and from 110s. to 130s. for closed flowers on the spot. Good to fine powder is held at from 1s. to 1s. 3d. per lb.

IPECACUANHA.—Very firmly held; according to the statistical position of the article a rise seems warranted. No business is reported in *Brazilian* root, although some may have been done at firm rates. *Colombian* is reported to have been sold at 4s. 6d. per lb., showing a slight advance.

JALAP.—The London market is unchanged, but a private cablegram received to-day from New York announces that the new crop is turning out much worse than expected, and that all quotations for shipments are withdrawn. For fine *Vera Cruz* as much as 8½d. per lb. is now mentioned as the spot quotation.

KINO.—Rather weaker. Good genuine *East Indian* is now offering at 12s. to 13s. per lb.

LIQUORICE ROOT is steady. Best *Russian* decorticated offers at 28s. 6d. per cwt., c.i.f. terms. The stock of *Persian* root is moderate; decorticated is quoted nominally at 20s. to 22s. 6d. per cwt.; ordinary rough at 7s. to 8s. 6d. per cwt.

MERCURIALS.—The English manufacturers of mercurials have to-day reduced their prices. At the same time a re-arrangement of quotations has been agreed upon, full details of which have not yet been made public, which prevents an exact comparison with the previous quotations. The drop in prices will be found to average 4d. on *Calomel*, and about 2d. on the other principal mercurial salts. It appears that up to the present the manufacturers have been in the habit of making an allowance for ½-ton lots of about 6d. as compared with the 56 lb. parcel price, and of allowing buyers of 10-cwt. lots to take out the quantity in any assortment they pleased. This concession has been utilised to undersell the manufacturers in orders for small quantities, and the re-arrangement has been made chiefly in order to prevent this. It will in future be necessary to take even ½-ton lots entirely in the salt in which they are ordered. The price of *calomel* is now 2s. 8d. per lb. for lots under 56 lbs., and 2s. 4d. per lb. for parcels from 2 cwt. to 5 cwt.

OIL (CASTOR).—No good *Calcutta* seconds on the spot below 2½d. per lb., but to arrive 2½d., c.i.f., is quoted. The quotations for *French* oil run from 17l. 10s. for seconds to 18l. 15s. for first pressings, f.o.b.

OIL (COD-LIVER).—A correspondent at Tromsø, in Norway, reports, under date of March 30, that large numbers of fishermen are leaving the Lofoten fishing-ground. In Finnmarken, where the fishing is now about to commence, few fishermen have yet arrived. So far the fishing reports from that port are favourable. The market generally is unsettled, it being a question whether the Finnmarken fishing will partly make up the deficiency of the Lofoten season. Business has been quiet this week, but the general opinion seems to be that a resumption of activity at higher rates is not far off. Meanwhile the closest quotations are:—New

non-congealing, from 225s. to 240s., according to holder; old ditto, 215s. per barrel; *Newfoundland* oil, 7s. per gallon. The world's total annual consumption of cod-liver oil is estimated at from 18,000 to 22,000 barrels, and it is believed that this year's fishing will not yield more than one-half of that quantity.

OILS (ESSENTIAL).—*Oil of Patchouli* has lately been advanced in price. Genuine oil, distilled in Europe, is now quoted at 24s. per lb. *Citronella* oil is much easier, drums for April shipment offering as low as 1s. 2d. per lb., c.i.f. terms; but there are no buyers at more than 1s. per lb., c.i.f. On the spot sales have been made at 1s. 7d. to 1s. 7½d. per lb. Distilled *Oil of Limes* is quoted at slightly higher prices. American *Oil of peppermint* (HGH) offers freely at 9s. 3d. per lb.; probably 9s. 1½d. per lb. would not be refused. *Japanese peppermint* oil dull of sale: dementholised 5s.; 40-per-cent., 6s. 6d. per lb. *Lemongrass* oil quiet at 2½d. per oz. *Star-anise* oil somewhat duller, and probably obtainable at 10s. 3d. per lb. *Oil of cassia* quiet, at 7s. 9d. to 8s. per lb. for 75-per-cent. oil.

ORRIS ROOT is quoted at lower prices. Picked *Florentine*, 66s. to 67s. 6d.; sorts, according to quality, from 57s. 6d. to 63s. per cwt., c.i.f. London. *Verona* root of first quality offers at from 56s. 6d. to 57s. 6d.; second quality at 56s. per cwt., c.i.f. Common *Verona* root is wanting.

POTASH SALTS.—Potashes are easier, best *Montreal* having sold as low as 20s. 6d. per cwt. in Liverpool lately. *Pearlashes* are nominal at 34s. to 35s. per cwt. *French Pearlashes* quiet at 17s. to 18s. per cwt. *Chlorate* of potash quiet at 4½d. to 4¾d. per lb. *Pernanganate* offers a little more freely, but prices show no change. Yellow *Prussiate*: English, 7¾d.; Beckton, 6¾d. per lb. *Saltpetre*, refined, 20s. 4½d. to 22s. 9d. per cwt., according to brand and packing.

QUICKSILVER remains extremely dull of sale. The importers' price is 6l. 17s. 6d., the second-hand rate 6l. 16s. 6d. per bottle.

QUININE.—Extremely quiet, at 1s. 1d. per oz. nominally for second-hand *German* bulk. Some business in *Imperial* quinine is also reported at 1s. 1d. per oz. for bulk.

SAFFRON.—Firmly held; good to best *Valencia* offers at 25s. to 28s. 6d. per lb.; *Alicante* at 17s. 6d. per lb.

SANTONIN is somewhat lower; 6s. 10d. per lb. would be accepted.

SENNA.—There has been a considerable advance for *Alexandrian* senna-leaves since our last report, and several parcels have changed hands, partly for shipment to the States, and partly on speculation. Picked and broken leaves are no longer to be had in first-hand, although a parcel of so-called picked, but really partly broken, is still offering in that position at 1s. per lb. The stock of sorts is believed to be limited to a little over 20 cases, for which from 2½d. per lb. for stalky to 3d. per lb. for fair quality is asked. *Siftings* are quoted at 3½d. per lb.; broken leaf, nominally at 6d. to 7d. per lb.

SHELLAC.—A fair business is reported on the spot at full rates, *Second orange* TN having changed hands at 95s. to 96s., and fair free AC garnet at 88s. per cwt., cash terms. In *Buttontac* common thirds have been sold at 79s. per cwt., cash terms.

SUGAR OF MILK remains firm; finest white powder at 77s. 6d. to 80s. per cwt., ordinary brands at about 70s. per cwt. The new season's produce is now beginning to arrive, but there does not seem any prospect of lower rates just at present.

TEA.—The market is practically closed this week as far as the brokers are concerned, but there is more disposition to buy on the part of retailers throughout the country, and dealers have been getting a fair amount of orders in spite of the holidays. The market for lower grades being a shade firmer, and many country buyers having run their stocks down rather low, there is every prospect of a steady trade for the next six weeks or two months. From all appearances we shall have an awkward time for good Assams for blending-purposes before new teas come in, about next August. There is a marked scarcity of really good Assam tea, and



retailers would do well to protect themselves if they have not enough to carry them over the next three or four months.

**TONCA-BEANS.**—A quiet market. For bold black frosted *Angostura* beans 7s. 6d. per lb. is nominally quoted.

**WAX (JAPAN)**—Firm. It is said that fine squares are not obtainable on the spot below 37s. per cwt., while the c.i.f. quotation is 37s. 6d. to 40s. per cwt.

#### Heavy Chemicals.

Owing to the holidays, business has been exceedingly quiet, and there is not much of importance to report. There seems to be a general complaint all round about the scarcity of new business, and altogether future prospects are not very bright. *Sulphate of ammonia* continues on the downward path: Beckton terms, 7l. 17s. 6d.; Leith, 7l. 17s. 6d.; Hull, 8l.; London, 8l. 2s. 6d. *Sulphate of copper* is firm: Anchor, 18l. 10s.; Liverpool, 17l. 15s. to 18l.; July-August de livery, 16l. 10s. *Soda ash* a trifle easier. *Bleaching-powder*, *Caustic soda*, and *Soda crystals* in fair demand only. *Recovered sulphur* firm. *Benzols* quiet. *Hyposulphite of soda*, slightly increased demand. *Borax* steady. *Lime-salts* in moderate request. *Acids* generally quiet. *Prussiate of potash*, *Chlorate of potash*, *Bichromates of potash* and *soda* continue steady at unchanged rates. *Nitrate of soda* firm. *Green copperas* in active demand. *Sal ammoniac* quiet. *Pitch*, lower tendency.

#### The Liverpool Drug-market.

Our Liverpool correspondent, writing on April 8, says that in *Gums* the demand for *Soudan* sorts for speculation has continued fairly active, full prices being realised for all parcels available at reasonable figures, and a further advance is now asked. *Niger gum* is also hardening, holders being disposed to offer very sparingly. Of *Jaborandi* leaves a large parcel is reported as having arrived, and will be offered at auction. *Arsenic* is still very firmly held, 26l. being asked by some for powder, though 25l. might be taken by a few sellers. *Egyptian fenugrecks* have been selling somewhat freely at 7l. 10s., and *Bombays* are held for the same figure. *Sierra Leone chillies* are very firm at late rates, the reports of the short crop being evidently justified by facts; fine bright are held up to 40s. per cwt. *African ginger*, on the other hand, is easier, and sales have been made at a decline on recent figures, good sound root fetching 21s. per cwt. for quantity. *Beeswax* is in steady demand, and sales of *Chilian* have been effected at prices ranging from 7l. 15s. to 8l. *Nux vomica* meets with little demand, and part of recent arrivals has found buyers at 4s. to 4s. 6d. per cwt. *Anise (Chilian)* is held steadily at 22s. 6d. per cwt., and *Turkish* at 25s. per cwt., with little business passing. *Castor oil*, notwithstanding a rather large arrival by the s.s. *Barrister*, is steady at 2½d. for *Good seconds Calcutta*, and *First-pressure French* is held for the same figure. *Madras* and *Second-pressure French* are quoted 2½d. per lb. *Honeys* of all grades quiet at the rates last advised. *Canaryseed* is depressed, and late quotations are only nominal.

#### The American Drug Market.

Our New York correspondent writes under date of March 28:—"Business in articles of interest to English buyers is slow, and with one or two exceptions there are no appreciable changes in quotations. All grades of *Balsam Copaiba* are arriving slowly: *Angostura* is held at 40c., Central American at 34c., and *Pará* at 35c.; there are no available stocks in Maranhão or Maracaibo varieties, while, owing to direct arrivals of *Peru*, price of the latter has receded to \$2. *Curaçao aloes*, firm at 3½c. light supplies. *Bayberry-bark* has declined; next months' gathering being offered at 6c. per lb. *Cascara Sagrada* is dull, but quotably firm at 4c. *Angostura Tonka-beans* are quoted at \$2 50, but \$2.25 would prove a trading basis in some instances. Newfoundland *Cod-liver oil* is in brisk demand, but, owing to the volume of exports, stocks are light. The quantity prospectively indicated (which will be made to complete the season's operations) is of a limited character. For ordinary grades \$1 is quoted, while for choice stock the quotations reach \$1.50 per gallon. *Peppermint oil* is in slow demand: the Wayne County variety is quoted \$1 80, and H. G. Hotch-

kiss \$2.15 per lb. *Jalap* is quoted 12c. for prime and 10c. for ordinary. Stocks in first hands aggregate 253 bales."

#### The Amsterdam Market.

Our Amsterdam correspondent, writing on April 9, reports that the *Cinchona* market has undergone no change. The March shipments from Java are not yet known, and it is expected that the next auction will be smaller than usual. On April 7, 70 tons of Van Houten's No. A *cocoa butter* sold at firm rates, with good competition, at an average of 68 45c. per half-kilo.

#### The Hamburg Drug-market.

Our correspondent writes on April 7:—"Business is very quiet here in consequence of the Easter holidays, and there are very few changes in prices to be reported. *Antimony* continues quiet at 33m. for crude, 66m. to 67m. per 100 kilos. for regulus. *Arsenic* remains unaltered, white refined, in lumps, 45m. to 46m., yellow 46m. to 47m. per 100 kilos. *Acid (citric)* quiet, best English 255m. to 256m. per 100 kilos. *Acid (carbolic)* firm at 165½m. to 175m. per 100 kilos. *Acid (tartaric)* quiet at 260m. to 264m. per 100 kilos. *Balsam copaiba* and *Balsam Peru*, 16m. per kilo., show no change in prices. *Borax (refined)* unaltered, 42m. to 43m. per 100 kilos. *Camphor (refined)* is very quiet; the refiners ask 435m. per 100 kilos., while there are second-hand sellers at 405m. per 100 kilos. *Chlorate of potash* steady at 86m. per 100 kilos. *Cantharides* are quiet at 420m. to 400m. per 100 kilos. for prime Russian. *Cascara sagrada* is unaltered at 42m. to 45m. per 100 kilos. *Cloves*, *Zarzibar*, 41m. per 100 kilos. *Cinnamon* continues very firm. *Cardamoms* are in better demand. *Cod-liver oil* is still very firm, but shows very little business; 1895 non-congealing oil is quoted 200m., 1896 205m. to 210m. per barrel. *Alexandrian senna-leaves* improving. *Gum arabic* steadily advancing, but as yet there are few buyers at the present high prices. *Glycerine* is unchanged, with improving demand. *Oils (essential)*: *Peppermint oil*, HGH, is quoted 9¼m. to 9½m. per lb.; *Japan oil* 11m. to 11.25m. per kilo. *Lycopodium* is a little easier at 330m. per 100 kilos. *Honey* is unchanged; there are cheap offers of new crop for shipment from Valparaiso. *Beeswax* is quiet but firm; *Japan wax* 72m. per 100 kilos. *Carnauba wax*, grey, is quoted from 195m. to 215m. per 100 kilos.; medium from 215m. to 225m.; fine yellow from 240m. to 255m. per 100 kilos. *Saltpetre* is quiet at 15.40m. per 100 kilos."

#### The Smyrna and Constantinople Opium markets.

Our Constantinople correspondent writes on April 2:—"Rumours of damage to the autumn and winter sowings (which were smaller than last year's) have been gathering force, and we can now with all confidence state that 40 to 50 per cent., and perhaps more, has been irretrievably lost. *Salonica* is in a still worse condition, and only very little over half of last year's yield can be expected, even if all goes well henceforward. Under the circumstances we cannot expect a crop of more than 5,000 cases, and the probabilities are that it will be below this figure. Values have responded but feebly to this discouraging news, and the cause is not far to seek. With a little encouragement natives on this side would have been only too pleased to rush up values, but this encouragement is lacking owing to the indifference of Europe and America. The stock in Turkey is too heavy to allow of any considerable rise without outside help. Any fluctuation either way appears to be out of question for the time being, beyond, perhaps, a slight decline if the weather continues favourable for spring sowings. The market is firm." Our reports from Smyrna are dated up to March 31. Our correspondent states that the continued reports of damage to the growing crops have found some belief, and have caused an advance in the market. About 91 cases have been sold at prices ranging from 7s. 10d. to 8s. 3d. for *Adette tale quale*, and from 8s. to 8s. 7d. for *Yerli ditto*. The *Yerli* was bought for Europe, the other for the United States. The market closes with a rather weaker tendency. Serious doubts are entertained whether the damage has been anything like as extensive as reported. All the large holders are firm, and will not accept less than 8s. 8d. per lb. for any opium whatever.



## Price-list of Seeds, Spices, &amp;c.

THE following are the current wholesale market quotations of various seeds, spices, &c. A price-list of essential oils appeared in our issue of March 28, of heavy chemicals and oils on March 21, and of fine chemicals on March 14. (The last insertion of the list of seeds, spices, &c., was on February 29 last.)

Article	Origin and Quality	Price per	From	To
Anise-seed .. ..	Chilian, fair to good ..	cwt.	s. d.	s. d.
" .. ..	Italian .. ..	"	21 0	22 0
" .. ..	Russian, fair nnsited ..	"	27 0	28 0
" .. ..	Spanish .. ..	"	21 0	22 0
Anise (Star) .. ..	Chinese, genuine ..	"	26 0	32 0
" .. ..	Jap. ( <i>Illic religios.</i> ) ..	"	95 0	97 6
Annatto-seed .. ..	E. I., ordinary to fair ..	lb.	—	—
Annatto paste .. ..	Cayenne .. ..	"	0 6	1 6
" .. ..	Guadeloupe .. ..	"	0 4½	—
Areca-nuts .. ..	Ceylon or Mal. .. ..	cwt.	8 6	12 0
Arrowroot .. ..	Bermuda .. ..	lb.	0 10½	2 0
" .. ..	Natal, fair to fine ..	"	0 5	0 6½
" .. ..	St. Vincent .. ..	"	0 1½	0 4
" .. ..	Queensland .. ..	"	—	—
Calumba .. ..	Good yellow washed ..	cwt.	30 0	40 0
" .. ..	Fair to good sorts ..	"	12 0	18 0
" .. ..	Ordinary brown ..	"	7 0	9 0
Canary-seed .. ..	Moroccan, fair to good ..	464 lbs.	35 0	42 6
" .. ..	River Plate, " ..	"	29 0	30 0
" .. ..	Spanish .. ..	"	46 0	50 0
" .. ..	Turkish .. ..	"	32 0	34 0
" .. ..	English .. ..	"	38 0	42 0
Capsicums .. ..	Natal, dull to bright ..	cwt.	50 0	60 0
" .. ..	E. I. .. ..	"	20 0	24 0
Caraway-seed .. ..	Dutch, fair to good ..	"	27 6	30 0
Cardamoms .. ..	Mang. m. - b. yellow ..	lb.	2 3	2 6
" .. ..	Mys. & Mal., ord.-med. ..	"	1 8	1 11
" .. ..	Mys. & Mal., med. pale ..	"	2 0	2 9
" .. ..	Mys. & Mal., fine pale ..	"	2 10	3 10
" .. ..	Tellich., ord. to pale ..	"	1 2	1 10
" .. ..	Aleppy .. ..	"	1 5	1 8
" .. ..	Wild Ceylon .. ..	"	2 3	3 2
Cardamom-seed .. ..	" .. ..	"	3 0	3 2
Cassia-buds .. ..	" .. ..	cwt.	—	—
Cassia Fistula .. ..	Wormy to fair ..	"	8 0	18 6
" .. ..	Fair unsorted quill ..	"	29 0	30 0
Chillies .. ..	Zanzibar, dull to bright ..	lb.	26 0	33 0
" .. ..	Sierra Leone, ditto ..	"	29 0	35 0
Cinnamon .. ..	Ceylon I., quill ..	"	0 10½	1 5
" .. ..	" II., " .. ..	"	0 10	1 3
" .. ..	" III., " .. ..	"	0 9½	1 0
" .. ..	" IV., " .. ..	"	0 8	0 10½
" .. ..	" chips .. ..	"	0 2½	0 7
Clover-seed .. ..	Good red English ..	cwt.	—	—
" .. ..	" red foreign ..	"	—	—
" .. ..	" white .. ..	"	—	—
Cloves .. ..	Amboina, fair to fine ..	lb.	0 4½	0 5½
" .. ..	Penang, fair to fine ..	"	0 5	0 10
" .. ..	Zanzibar, fair to fine ..	"	0 2½	0 2½
Clove-stems .. ..	" .. ..	"	0 1	0 1½
Cochineal .. ..	Teneriffe, grey and black ..	"	1 2½	—
" .. ..	" silver .. ..	"	1 3	1 4½
Coriander-seed .. ..	Mogadore .. ..	cwt.	12 0	12 6
" .. ..	East Indian, ordinary ..	"	5 0	5 6
" .. ..	East Indian, fair ..	"	8 0	9 0
Cotton-seed .. ..	Brazilian .. ..	"	3 9	4 9
" .. ..	Egyptian .. ..	"	4 9	5 0
Oroton-seed .. ..	Fair to good E.I. ..	"	—	—
Cumin-seed .. ..	Malta, fair to good ..	"	34 0	36 6
Fenugreek-seed .. ..	Moroccan, fair to good ..	"	8 6	9 0
" .. ..	East Indian, fair pale ..	"	7 6	8 0
Galangal .. ..	Fair Chinese .. ..	"	—	20 0
Galls .. ..	Chinese, ordinary ..	"	—	—
" .. ..	" plum-shape ..	"	—	—
" .. ..	Japan .. ..	"	52 0	54 0
" .. ..	Morea .. ..	"	27 6	28 0
" .. ..	Pers. (Basorah) blue ..	"	—	—
" .. ..	" green .. ..	"	—	—
" .. ..	" white .. ..	"	—	—
" .. ..	Smyrna, blue .. ..	"	—	—
" .. ..	" green .. ..	"	—	—
" .. ..	" white .. ..	"	—	—
Gentian-root .. ..	French, fair to good ..	"	21 0	22 6
Ginger .. ..	African .. ..	"	21 0	23 0
" .. ..	Bengal .. ..	"	17 0	26 0
" .. ..	Cochin, bold, cut, scraped ..	"	68 0	80 0
" .. ..	" medium, scraped ..	"	55 6	57 6
" .. ..	" small, scraped ..	"	52 6	55 0
" .. ..	" rough, washed ..	"	37 0	38 0
" .. ..	" dark .. ..	"	30 0	32 6
" .. ..	Jam., good to fine ..	"	90 0	125 0
" .. ..	" sm. medium .. ..	"	72 6	85 0
" .. ..	" ordinary .. ..	"	55 0	77 6
" .. ..	Japan, unsplit .. ..	"	24 0	25 0
Gingelly-seed .. ..	" .. ..	384 lbs.	36 0	39 0
Guinea-grains .. ..	" .. ..	cwt.	17 0	20 0
Hempseed .. ..	Chilian .. ..	336 lbs.	27 0	29 0
" .. ..	Hungarian .. ..	"	—	—
" .. ..	Turkish .. ..	"	—	—

Article	Origin and Quality	Price per	From	To
Hops .. ..	Kent, 1895 .. ..	cwt.	s. d.	s. d.
" .. ..	Sussex .. ..	"	30 0	105 0
" .. ..	Farnham and country ..	"	30 0	60 0
" .. ..	Worcester .. ..	"	40 0	70 0
" .. ..	English, 1894 .. ..	"	40 0	70 0
" .. ..	" old .. ..	"	15 0	30 0
" .. ..	Belgian .. ..	"	5 0	20 0
" .. ..	Ground nut .. ..	"	40 0	60 0
Kernels .. ..	" .. ..	"	9 6	10 0
Linseed .. ..	Palm nut .. ..	"	—	—
" .. ..	Bombay .. ..	416 lbs.	36 0	37 0
" .. ..	Calcutta, L.A.T. ..	"	35 6	—
" .. ..	River Plate .. ..	"	32 6	34 6
" .. ..	Turkish .. ..	"	32 0	37 0
Liquorice-juice .. ..	Italian, good to fine sticks ..	cwt.	65 0	135 0
" .. ..	Turkish block .. ..	"	34 0	38 6
Liquorice-root .. ..	Persian, decorl. ..	"	20 0	25 0
" .. ..	" rough .. ..	"	6 0	7 6
" .. ..	Russian, decorl. ..	"	28 0	30 0
Mace .. ..	Banda cult., reddish to pale ..	lb.	1 10	2 4
" .. ..	" ordinary to fair ..	"	1 3	1 8
" .. ..	Singapore, dark to pale ..	"	1 4	1 8
" .. ..	E.I. wild, dark to good ..	"	0 23	0 4½
Millet-seed .. ..	French, fair .. ..	416 lbs.	33 0	42 0
" .. ..	Italian, good to fine white ..	"	46 0	48 0
" .. ..	Moroccan, common ..	480 lbs.	28 0	30 0
" .. ..	" cleaned yellow ..	"	30 0	32 0
Moss, Carragheen ..	Good to fine picked ..	cwt.	40 0	45 0
" .. ..	Common .. ..	"	7 6	12 0
Mustard-seed .. ..	Ordinary to fine ..	busel	8 0	12 0
Myrabolans .. ..	Bengal .. ..	cwt.	3 6	5 9
" .. ..	Bombay, Bhimlie ..	"	4 0	6 6
" .. ..	" Jubblepore ..	"	4 0	5 6
" .. ..	" Rajpore .. ..	"	3 6	5 6
" .. ..	" Vingoria .. ..	"	3 6	5 0
" .. ..	Madras .. ..	"	2 6	5 0
Niger-seed .. ..	" .. ..	376 lbs.	28 0	29 0
Nutmegs .. ..	Sing. or Peuang, 78-57 ..	lb.	1 11½	3 2
" .. ..	" 80-90 .. ..	"	1 9	2 0
" .. ..	" 95-100 .. ..	"	1 0	1 8½
Nux Vomica .. ..	Common to good pale ..	cwt.	4 0	8 0
Pepper, Black .. ..	Aleppy and Cochín ..	lb.	0 2½	0 2½
" .. ..	Malabar, sifted ..	"	0 2½	0 2½
" .. ..	Telicherry .. ..	"	0 2½	0 2½
" .. ..	Penang and Atchin ..	"	0 1½	0 2½
" .. ..	Siam .. ..	"	0 2½	—
" .. ..	Singapore .. ..	"	0 2½	0 2½
" .. ..	Penang .. ..	"	0 3	—
" .. ..	Siam .. ..	"	0 3½	—
" .. ..	Singapore .. ..	"	0 4	0 5½
" .. ..	Cayenne .. ..	"	—	—
" .. ..	Long .. ..	"	12 0	13 6
Pimento .. ..	Jamaica, ordinary to fair ..	"	0 2½	0 2½
Poppy-seed .. ..	White .. ..	368 lbs.	34 0	35 0
Rape-seed .. ..	Bombay, mixed ..	416	29 0	—
" .. ..	Calcutta, brown ..	"	30 0	—
" .. ..	Scinde and Gujerati ..	"	31 0	32 6
" .. ..	Ordinary to fair ..	424	38 0	43 0
Rubben-seed .. ..	Bengal, good to fine ..	cwt.	80 0	90 0
Safflower .. ..	" ord. to med. ..	"	60 0	75 0
Saffron .. ..	Fine to best Val. ..	lb.	—	—
" .. ..	Fair to good .. ..	"	—	—
" .. ..	Alicante .. ..	"	—	—
Sago .. ..	Pearl, large grain ..	cwt.	11 0	12 0
" .. ..	" medium grain ..	"	9 0	10 6
" .. ..	" small grain ..	"	8 0	8 6
" .. ..	Flour, Sarawak, p. to wh. ..	"	6 0	7 6
Sesame-seed .. ..	(See Gingelly) .. ..	"	—	—
Soy .. ..	Chinese, fair .. ..	gall.	0 10	0 10½
" .. ..	Japanese, fair .. ..	"	—	—
Stavesacre seed .. ..	Fair merchantable ..	cwt.	95 0	—
Strophanthus-seed ..	Ordinary brown ..	cwt.	1 0	1 6
" .. ..	Kombé, fair to green ..	"	4 6	5 0
Tamarinds .. ..	E.I., fair black .. ..	"	6 0	8 6
" .. ..	W.I., fair to good new ..	"	16 6	18 0
" .. ..	" old .. ..	"	10 0	—
Tapioca .. ..	Brazilian (Rio) .. ..	lb.	0 5	0 7
" .. ..	Flake, Penang .. ..	"	0 1½	0 1½
" .. ..	" Singapore .. ..	"	0 1½	0 1½
" .. ..	Flour .. ..	cwt.	7 6	11 6
" .. ..	Pearl, bullets .. ..	"	10 0	10 9
" .. ..	" medium .. ..	"	8 0	10 3
" .. ..	" seed .. ..	"	9 0	10 6
Teel-seed .. ..	(See Gingelly) .. ..	"	—	—
Turmeric .. ..	Bengal .. ..	"	7 3	7 6
" .. ..	China .. ..	"	6 9	8 0
" .. ..	Cochin, finger .. ..	"	7 0	7 6
" .. ..	" bulb .. ..	"	5 6	7 6
" .. ..	Madras, finger, fair to fine ..	"	8 0	9 6
" .. ..	" bulb and finger ..	"	7 0	8 0
" .. ..	" bulb .. ..	"	6 0	7 6
Worm-seed .. ..	" .. ..	"	—	—
Yellow Berries .. ..	Persian, fair to good ..	"	15 0	28 0

THE University Correspondence College Press will publish shortly Part I. of *Tutorial Chemistry*, by G. H. Bailey, D.Sc. Lond., Ph.D. Heidelberg. The book is designed for practical teaching, and great care has been bestowed upon the diagrams.





### Memoranda for Correspondents.

*In letters for publication correspondents are requested to express their views as concisely as possible.*

*Correspondents should write on one side of the paper only, and devote a separate piece of paper to each subject of inquiry.*

*The name and address of the writer should accompany all communications, with, if desired, a distinctive nom-de-plume.*

### Shops (Early-closing) Bill.

SIR,—I send you at foot of this letter some arguments against the Shops (Compulsory Closing) Bill.

I would call the attention of all retail traders to the fact that it has been read a second time, passed through Committee, and is now soon coming up for third reading.

I think all interested should immediately approach their representatives in Parliament, communicating to them their ideas upon the subject. I remain, yours truly,

Childwick Bury,  
St. Albans, April 4.

J. BLUNDELL MAPLE.

### ARGUMENTS AGAINST THE SHOPS (EARLY-CLOSING) BILL, 1896.

(Down for Report Stage in House of Commons, April 15.)

The Bill interferes with the liberty of the subject and adult male labour. Except the Act limiting the hours for signalmen, there is no legislation in Great Britain and Ireland interfering with the liberty of adult male labour to work when and how long it likes.

The Bill legalises the principle of Local Veto and Local Option as to the hours of trading in shops, as two-thirds of the shopkeepers can close the other third, with the sanction of the Local Authority.

The London County Council is the Local Authority for the Metropolis outside the City.

The Bill would not be operative in bad districts, as one-third of the shopkeepers could prevent the other two-thirds from bringing the measure into force.

There is no definition in the Bill as to what "part of a district" means. It was argued, on Committee, that it might be a ward of a parish, a street, a side of a street, or a small number of shops.

The Local Authority is to have absolute power to decide this, and the Local Authority in London, as set forth in the Bill, is not the Vestries, but the London County Council.

The Bill defines a shop as being:

"Any building, or portion of a building, booth, or stall, where goods are exposed or offered for sale by retail, including a place where the business of a barber is carried on."

Costermongers' barrows on wheels are not included as shops, and, consequently, would not be subject to the compulsory early closing.

There is nothing in the Bill compelling the Local Authority to make a list and classification of each shop.

There is no definition of refreshment-houses, which are exempt. Would confectioners, coffee-shops, eating-houses, and restaurants be exempt?

In the original Bill the classification of shops was to be left to the Home Office. It has now been amended, putting this duty on the Local Authority. It was contended by the promoters of the Bill that in classes of shops might be included different trades. Therefore, in one part of a district, butchers and bakers might be considered one class; in another, butchers, bakers, and grocers; in another, butchers, bakers, grocers, and drapers; and in this way a two-thirds majority might be secured.

Nothing is defined in the Bill as to who shall vote for early closing, except the word "occupier." Is each partner in a shop to have a vote, or, in the case of a limited company, each director? What qualifying period is necessary? Is the shopkeeper to have a vote in respect of each class of trade carried on?

The Bill is opposed to temperance ideas, as it exempts public-houses, not compelling them to be closed, thereby allowing them to remain open and to sell anything that the closed shops are in the habit of selling.

It will add greatly to the rates, especially in London, while it may reduce the rateable value of many shops. It will add also to the police duties. It is excessively hard upon the poor little shopkeepers, employing perhaps one or no assistants, as on the third conviction for late trading a fine of 5*l.* has to be made, while no larger fine than that can be imposed on the large shopkeepers.

A Bill on similar lines was brought before the House of Commons on May 2, 1888, and defeated by 278 votes to 95.

If shop assistants require special legislation to limit their hours of work, that could be arrived at by a Bill limiting the hours worked per week, leaving the shops to remain open. Under such a Bill small shops, not employing assistants, would not be affected.

By the existing Shop Hours Regulation Act, young people under 18 years of age are not allowed to work more than 74 hours per week, including meal hours.

The Bill interferes with purchasers and consumers, compelling them to buy goods in their own working hours.

Before a Bill interfering with the liberties of the subject, inflicting heavy costs on the rates, and worry to all the small shopkeepers, is passed, proof is required that the necessities of the case, and the well-being of those interested, need such drastic and grandmotherly legislation.

It was said that only some small shopkeepers opposed the Bill. Experience, however, told him that the small shopkeepers of the metropolis were not now organised in opposition to it, only because they did not contemplate the possibility of the House of Commons being unwise enough to meddle with the ordinary avocations of their life. The Hon. Baronet (Sir John Lubbock), using a phrase which was out of harmony with the kindly tone of the rest of his speech, said it was hypocritical to oppose the Bill on grounds of personal liberty. Now, he opposed the Bill on those grounds, and he hoped that he was not hypocritical. If they began by recognising the right of Parliament to interfere and control personal liberty in that way, where would they stop? The Bill was, he thought, absurd in its details, and immoral in its principle. It was immoral in its principle because it would strike a blow at the self-reliance of the individual, and it was absurd in its details because, among other things, while it professed to be required for the welfare of the shop assistants, it gave one-third of the shopkeepers in a district the power of preventing its provisions from being put in operation.

Mr. Charles Bradlaugh, M.P., on The Shops (Early-closing) Bill.—House of Commons, May 2, 1888.

### Anti-cutting in France.

SIR,—Some time ago I exposed in your valuable paper the scheme proposed by French chemists to avoid cutting.

The wholesale men cannot make up their minds what to do, and, in order to help them to a decision, a local co-operative society of pharmaciens, "L'Union de l'Etoile," have launched against one of the worst-cut medicinal wines a similar article showing a good profit to retailers, and which is pushed in thirty-five pharmacies of the quarter. This wine is, however, principally interesting from the fact that it is the first patent medicine provided with the coupons of which I have spoken. It is sold at full prices to all chemists, and only those who guarantee to forfeit 12*l.* if they sell under prices can receive the value of the coupon on presenting it to the manufacturers. In this particular case the discount is 9*d.* on 2*s* 6*d.*

If this can be done in one case, it can be done in all. It is for the retailers to stir in the matter and prove to the manufacturers that they will not sell their goods without a fair profit, and that those articles which bear no profit will systematically be discarded, and others pushed in their stead.

A retailer can always say, when asked if "Jones's Cure-all" is good, "I do not know; it is a secret remedy. If you wish for it, I sell it you sealed as I bought it." Ten to one the customer will say, "But have you nothing you know as being good?" and he goes away pleased, leaving the chemist pleased also, for he has sold something which yields a profit.

As soon as manufacturers understand that if they do not ensure a living profit to those who sell their goods their trade will decrease, they will soon find a way to do so; and



if each individual chemist will do all he can, their eyes will soon be opened.

Yours faithfully,

Paris, April 6.

HORACE S. HILL.

#### Co-operation: a Remedy for Low Prices.

SIR,—It has often appeared to me that the best means of profitably conducting the retail chemists' business in these days of severe competition with limited companies would be a more economical system of purchasing pure drugs, chemists' requisites, &c. This might be attained by retail chemists subscribing a small amount each (not necessarily exceeding 5*l.*) for the formation of their own large wholesale manufacturing limited company, whereby the subscribers might receive back as a bonus proportionate to their purchases the net profits accruing after paying, say, a fourth of the net profits as dividend on the original shares. If this combination were well supported by a large number of the chemists in business, the company would be such large buyers and producers that they must save a substantial amount to the retail chemist.

Some advantages would be:—(1) The abolition of the middleman's profit; (2) the guarantee of the purest of drugs and chemicals; (3) preparations of stated and uniform composition; (4) exclusion of limited companies; (5) the institution of copyrighted proprietary articles for sale at fixed prices only, thus securing a substantial profit; (6) the reception and publication of new ideas advantageous to chemists; (7) the sale of shares to registered chemists only; (8) the expenses of travellers and advertising saved; (9) a powerful combination for legislative purposes; (10) a good investment.

With a view of putting something like the above into practical shape, the writer will be pleased to receive short postcard communications from chemists in business expressing approval or disapproval of the above scheme.

95 Waller Road,

G. T. COOPER.

New Cross Gate, S.E.

#### The Oldest Drug-house.

SIR,—We think we are the oldest house now in existence. We have books to prove that this firm was established as a wholesale drug-house in the year 1636. We also have never in our establishment of more than 200 years compounded with our creditors. This is a record which, we venture to think, cannot be beaten.

We would like to know if there is another concern as ancient as this.

Your obedient servants,

P. A. LESLIE & Co.,

Wholesale Druggists and Manufacturing Chemists.

36 Bride Street, Dublin, April 1.

#### The Liverpool Prescriptions.

SIR,—I was much interested in the readings of the prescriptions printed in your last issue. The variations show that the exercise was a good one, and as none of your readers seem to have given an altogether satisfactory rendering of the second prescription, perhaps you will kindly publish the following correct reading, which I was only able to arrive at by consulting the prescriber:—

Ung. hydrag.

Size of nut nocte.

Pulv. guaiac (sic!) .. .. . gr. v.

Mitte 12.

1 pulv. t.i.d.

The last is the greater curiosity, and only the physician who wrote it would be able to read guaiacol as the second ingredient.

Yours truly,

JASPER. (49/11.)

#### MISCELLANEOUS INQUIRIES.

39/16. *Hall*.—Your Linen-glaze is composed of farina and borax—about 1 part of the latter to 3 parts of the former.

39/9. *C. B.*—The Wound-dressing Powder is a mixture of hydrarg. perchlor. 1 part and ammon. chlor. 2 parts.

39/59. *C. P.*—Cooling and Teething Powders as your sample:—

Potass. chlorat.	..	..	..	..	gr. ij.
Pulv. glycyrrhiz.	..	..	..	..	gr. ij.
Pulv. sacch. alb.	..	..	..	..	gr. iv.

M.

The above represents the contents of one packet, and from a quarter to a half of a powder is sufficient for children between two and twelve months old.

20/7. *W. H. B.*—We are informed that cloth-merchants use hydrochloric acid for Testing Indigo blue Cloth. The genuine article does not turn red on being wetted with the acid.

35/32. *Canary*.—We cannot say what the oil for eruptions contains, but the following represents approximately the composition of the Embrocation for Bruises:—

Calaminae ..	..	..	..	..	3ss.
Glycerini ..	..	..	..	..	3j.
Liq. ammon.	..	..	..	..	5ij.
Aq. roseæ ..	..	..	..	..	3j.
Aq. ad ..	..	..	..	..	3vj.

M.

This should not be used internally.

40/29. *Edwardus*.—Children's Cooling-powders similar to your sample:—

Potass. nitrat...	..	..	..	..	gr. ss.
Pulv. glycyrrhiz.	..	..	..	..	gr. j.
Pulv. sacch. alb.	..	..	..	..	gr. iiss.

M.

41/1. *East Anglian*.—The Tooth-wash is peculiar. The best we can make of it is—

Aluminis ..	..	..	..	..	gr. xij.
Tr. myrrh.	..	..	..	..	5j.
Tr. aconiti ..	..	..	..	..	5j.
Liq. cocci ..	..	..	..	..	q.s.
Aq. chloroformi ad ..	..	..	..	..	3vj.

M.

You should have told us how it is to be used, and for what purpose.

30/68. *Apprentice*.—Your Depilatory is a mixture of potass. sulph. c. sulphure and pulv. iridis flor.: about equal parts of each.

39/60. *Veritas*.—(1) Pick-me up Paste for Fowls, &c:—

Pulv. pip. nig.	..	..	..	..	3ss.
Ferri peroxid.	..	..	..	..	3iv.
Pulv. cascariilæ	..	..	..	..	3ss.
Theriacæ ..	..	..	..	..	q.s.

Make a paste.

This is pretty near the thing. Dose, as much as will cover a sixpence, put into the bird's water. (2) We are surprised to hear that your wholesale house cannot supply you with tasteless cayenne. You can get it from Messrs. Potter & Clarke. (3) You may increase the lead in the hair-restorer without doing harm. Your experience is exceptional.

32/7. *X. Y. Z.*—(1) Wound-balsam—The following is what we make of the preparation:—

Tr. benzoin. co.	..	..	..	..	3j.
Ol. lini ad	..	..	..	..	3j.

M.

(2) Put some sulphur in the fox terrier's water. It will also be the better of a teaspoonful of Parrish's Syrup thrice daily.



36/61. *G. C.*—Horehound-beer:—

Horehound .. ..	1 lb.
Ginger .. ..	4 oz.
Water .. ..	4 gall.

Infuse for an hour or two, strain, and repeat the infusion with a second 4 gallons of water. In the mixed liquors dissolve—

Sugar .. ..	7 lbs.
Liquorice-juice .. ..	1 lb.

Make up to 10 gallons with water, and add the following:—

Oil of peppermint .. ..	10 drops.
Oil of lemon .. ..	3ij.
Essence of jargonelle pear .. ..	3j.
Tincture of capsicum .. ..	3ss.
Rectified spirit .. ..	3j.

Ferment with 1 oz. of German yeast for twenty-four hours, strain, and bottle.

41/46. *Minor.*—The following is a well-tried recipe for Cherry Tooth-paste:—

Pulv. iridis flor. .. ..	3j.
Pulv. coec cacti .. ..	3i.
Pulv. alum. ust. .. ..	3ij.
Pulv. potass. bitart. .. ..	3ss.
Pulv. cretæ rub. .. ..	3ij.
Pulv. oss. sepiæ .. ..	3j.

Mix the powders intimately, and add 4 oz. of red-currant jelly, bringing the paste down to a suitable consistency with syrup of mulberry. The following perfume may be used:—

Ol. cassiæ .. ..	℥iv.
Ol. ros. geran. .. ..	℥iv.
Ol. caryoph. .. ..	℥iij.

41/6. *A New Beginner.*—Cantharidin Hair-wash.—See *C. & D.*, August 3, 1895. Back numbers can be obtained from the Publisher.

40/50. *Bird-fancier.*—(1) Capsicum annuum is the pepper for giving canaries colour. We are astonished that your wholesale houses cannot supply it. Messrs. Potter & Clarke stock it. (2) We do not know how Lord Rayleigh applies collodion to give tenacity to soap bubbles, but we should think he would tell you if you wrote to him at the Royal Institution, Albemarle Street, W.

38/49. *V. S. Workshop.*—You will find full particulars regarding the curriculum for the M.R.C.V.S. in our last Educational number, September 7, 1895. Chemists' assistants in Edinburgh occasionally go through the one or the other of the colleges there, while attending business, but this is not at all a usual course. Roughly, the expenses of living and education are 100*l.* a year.

39/57. *F. F. W.*—Dobell's Aperient—The following is a formula for a general aperient which Dr. Horace Dobell pretty frequently prescribed when he was in practice. It is for the purpose of establishing a regular and complete action of the liver and of the whole alimentary canal. This formula was published in the *C. & D.*, July 21, 1888, page 76, and at that time Messrs. John Moss & Co. manufactured it:—

Ext. cascariæ sagradæ .. ..	gr. iij.
(Made by evaporating gr. xij. of liquid aqueous extract down to gr. iij.)	
Ext. rhei .. ..	gr. ij.
Jalapini .. ..	gr. j.
Podophyllin. .. ..	gr. ʒss.
Cocainæ hydrochlor. .. ..	gr. ʒ.
Ol. caryoph. .. ..	℥ss.
Glycerini .. ..	℥iv.
Sp. vini rect. ad .. ..	3ss.

Dissolve carefully and filter.

41/22. *Bichloride.*—For Petroleum Emulsion, see reply to a correspondent in our issue of October 26, 1895.

38/34. *Carbon.*—Lime juice Cordial.—See *C. & D. DIARY*, 1894, page 370.

39/65. *Antipyrin.*—Cheap Glass-cleaning Solution—A solution of carbonate of soda is as good as anything.

41/56. *B. W.*—We have always cleaned graph pads by simply sponging them with a moist sponge, but our experience was the same as yours—viz., that it is better to remelt the mass.

42/11. *Zemo*—You cannot bring insects to insect-powder. It must be put near their haunts, and the addition of oatmeal or anything else is not likely to make it more efficacious, because it is the volatile principles of pyrethrum which stupefy the insects and kill the smallest of them.

42/32. *W. R.*—Botanical Appointments.—Vacancies occasionally occur on the British Museum staff. To get these it is necessary, we understand, to join the Civil Service. You will find full particulars in regard to the examinations in the *Civil Service Year-book*, where also the salaries of the appointments are given.

42/56. *Formyl*—Cyclist's Oil.—We mean a colourless, or almost colourless, petroleum distillate. The dark brown oil with which your wholesale house has supplied you probably contains some waxy or resinous matter. At all events, it is not good enough for the purpose. We have not before heard the complaint which you make, and the oil has been in use for a number of years. It will be better, however, if you reduce the proportion of camphor.

40/9. *Sinapis.*—To remove enamel letters from windows soak the tops of the letters with turpentine or with ordinary paraffin, and repeat the application until the whole of the white-lead by which the letters are fixed becomes soft; then they may be removed without much difficulty.

43/9. *Zero.*—Blaud's Pill Capsules.—The ordinary ingredients of Blaud's pills—that is to say, the iron and potash mixed with an oleaceous body—make a combination which is protected by patent. We have seen capsules which are a mixture of freshly precipitated ferrous carbonate with an oil.

43/68. *Nautilus.*—You will find a detailed explanation of the method of bleaching sponges on page 207 of this volume (February 1, 1896).

44/25. *Cook.*—Coca elixir:—

Ext. cocæ liq. sol. .. ..	3iss.
Cocain. hydrochlor. .. ..	gr. xvij.
Elixir simpl. ad .. ..	℥j.

M.

Dose: One to two teaspoonfuls in water.

This makes a very palatable elixir and, as you will see, is not costly. You can reckon 1 oz. as containing 1 gr. cocain. hydrochlor.

44/14. *Alpha*—Send us a small sample of the powder; we could then probably help you.

44/17. *W. Adamson.*—Your Saline contains a good quantity of sugar, which may account for your customer liking it better than Eno's. This would represent your sample:—

Pulv. ac. tart. .. ..	13 oz.
Pulv. sodii bicarb. .. ..	14 "
Pulv. sacch. alb. .. ..	2½ lbs.

Dry ingredients separately, then well mix together.



44/29. *W. L.*—"Gorham's Tooth-extraction" is published by H. K. Lewis, 136 Gower Street, W.C.

50/2. *Ultramarine*.—See Buyers' Guide in 1896 DIARY.

46/17. *J. B.*—The sponges upon which cod-liver oil has been spilt will be best cleaned by several washings in a weak warm solution of caustic potash—say, in the proportion of 2 oz. of liq. potassæ P.B. to  $\frac{1}{2}$  gall. warm water.

46/62. *Bitters* makes an Orange Bitters from the following formula:—

Cort. aurant. ..	..	..	..	..	℥iij.
Rad. gentian. ..	..	..	..	..	℥iv.
Ol. limonis ..	..	..	..	..	℥ss.
Sp. vini rect. ..	..	..	..	..	O.v.
Aqua ..	..	..	..	..	cong. iij.

This gives good bitters, but the preparation does not keep bright. In order to do this the spirit should be increased to 5 pints, and 2 drachms of salicylic acid dissolved in it.

46/1. *Fungor*.—Monocarbonate of Ammonia for smelling-salts:—

Ammon. carb. ..	..	..	..	..	℥iij.
Liq. ammon. fort. ..	..	..	..	..	℥bj.
Ol. bergam. ..	..	..	..	..	℥j.
„ lavand. ..	..	..	..	..	℥ij.
„ myrist. ..	..	..	..	..	℥xv.
„ caryoph. ..	..	..	..	..	℥xv.
„ cinnam. ..	..	..	..	..	℥j.

Break the ammon. carb. into small pieces, and in a large Wedgewood mortar pour over it the liq. ammon. fort., with which previously mix the perfumes. Cover the mortar, and let stand for a few days to effect the conversion of the ammon. carb. to monocarbonate. Reduce to coarse powder, and keep closely stoppered.

43/72. *Liniment*.—Please explain what it is you cannot understand about the directions for preparing white liniment (*C. & D. DIARY*, 1896). We may then hope to enlighten you.

46/46. *Chemicus*.—Spelter is a native zinc of a yellowish colour (due probably to copper), and a "spelter" composed of equal parts of zinc and copper is used by cycle manufacturers for brazing joints.

46/11. *E. H. R.*—(1) From the symptoms you describe your customer has probably Chronic Atrophic Rhinitis (ozena). This is a chronic inflammation followed by atrophy of the mucous membrane of the nose, and accompanied by the formation of dry crusts and a most offensive odour. The treatment will be, in all probability, surgical, and extend over a considerable time. You should recommend your customer to lose no time in seeking skilled advice. (2) In regard to your query as to what to add to a mixture of salt and spirit (used to give a ghostly light), so as to make an aromatic smell, we suggest making a tincture of storax and benzoin, and using instead of plain spirit. A little powdered cascarilla might also be mixed with the salt.

45/71. *H. E.* (Forest Gate) would like an opinion on the following prescription used for Whooping-cough for a child two years old. He has twice refused to make it up, as the dose seemed excessively large:—

Ext. bellad. ..	..	..	..	..	gr. j.
Omni nocte sumenda. Mitte xij.					

It should be borne in mind that children stand belladonna very well—much better than adults. Whitla, in his "Dictionary of Treatment," says that belladonna, to be of any practical use in whooping-cough, must be given in doses bordering on dangerous. He selects atropine as the best form, with the alternative of  $\mathfrak{m}$  xij. tinctura belladonnæ every

three or four hours for a child of three. Charteris gives ("Practice of Medicine") Dr. Fuller's belladonna mixture as follows:—

Zinci sulph. ..	..	..	..	..	gr. viij.
Ext. belladonn. ..	..	..	..	..	gr. viij.
Aq. ad ..	..	..	..	..	℥iv.

A teaspoonful four times daily, and increased by one dose daily to a child above three years old.

This is practically 1 gr. of ext. per diem. Eustace Smith gave a child of four (for incontinence of urine)  $\mathfrak{z}$ j. tinct. belladonnæ (with potass. brom. and inf. digital) three times a day. As 1 dr. of tincture of belladonna is equal to 1 gr. of extract, we should think that a child of two years may with safety take a grain each night; of course it is assumed that the medical man is carefully watching the effects, as there is undoubtedly an element of anxiety in the administration of heroic doses.

42/2. *P. H.* (Wigton).—Ink for Marking Sacks.—There are two kinds:—

(1)

Lampblack ..	..	..	..	..	4 oz.
Gum acacia (cheapest) ..	..	..	..	..	2 oz.
Ordinary ink ..	..	..	..	..	$\frac{1}{2}$ gall.

(2)

Lampblack mixed with turpentine a sufficiency to make a thin paste. Ultramarine may take the place of lampblack if a blue ink is required: an ounce of resin may be added to each pint.

47/68. *Salicylic*.—Application for Soft Corns:—

Acid. salicylic. ..	..	..	..	..	gr. xxx.
Sapo. moll. ..	..	..	..	..	℥j.

*M. Ft. ungt.*

Apply a small piece on lint each morning.

114/12. *Ebor*.—Blood-mixture without Iodide of Potassium:—

Liq. arsenicalis ..	..	..	..	..	℥xxxij.
Potass. chlorat. ..	..	..	..	..	gr. xxxij.
Dec. sarsæ, conc. ..	..	..	..	..	℥ij.
Sp. chlorof. ..	..	..	..	..	℥ij.
Aq. ad ..	..	..	..	..	℥viij.

Dose: One tablespoonful to be taken three times a day after food.

45/42. *Zeno*.—Commercial Prepared Silica is decidedly gritty; but for pharmaceutical purposes it is sifted through fine sieves, in which form it is obtainable at 1s. per lb.

46/12. *Sambuci* (Cardiff).—You do not pay attention to our rules.

46/33. *Delta*.—By "lbj." in the formula on page 484 is meant 16 oz. by weight. The formula is a wholesale one. The old prescription lb. of 12 oz. is obsolete.

## INFORMATION SUPPLIED.

For this section we are always glad to receive from subscribers brief notes on practical subjects, recipes which have been found good in practice or which have required modification, and hints or fresh ideas on any pharmaceutical or trade matter.

18/16. *Conf. Caryostinum*.—Thirty-five years ago we called it elect. caryost. It was considered a liver-rouser, active ingredient scammony, with cloves, caraway, ginger, and syr. rhæados. J. F. W.

This doubtless means caryocostinum or confect. caryocostinum, now represented in the B.P. by conf. scammon. Like a good many old preparations there are different formulae for it, two of which I send you—one taken from "Gray's Supplement," 1832, the other from a book published in 1698



and given under the heading of "Pharmacopœia Londinensis Remedia"—each being an exact copy of the formula as printed:—

Caryocotinum.

R Caryoph. costi seu zed. cumin. zz. ā 5ij. hermod. diagryd. ā 3ss. Mel. Rosat. triplum. f. el. s.a. —1698

Scamm. hermodact. caryoph. arom. zz. aa 5vj. ol. carui 5j. honey lbj. 13/4 the lb. —Gray, 1832.

I do not know whether a translation is needed, but the first is—

Oloves, costus, or zedoary-root, cumin-seed, ginger, each 5ij.; hermodactyl, diagrydium aa 3ss.; mel. rosat. three times the weight of the other ingredients.

Hermodactyl is believed to be a species of colchicum-root. Diagrydium was a preparation of scammony with quince-juice.

Cheetham Hill, March 21.

W. WILKINSON.

Confectio or electvarium caryostinum P.L. 1720. The predecessor of confectio scammoniae, B.P.

Dover, March 24.

J. F. BROWN.

Indian Cerate (largely sold in the Potteries):—

White wax	..	..	..	..	18 oz.
Camphor	..	..	..	..	1 dr.
Olive oil..	..	..	..	..	2 pints

Melt, and add—

Plumb. acet.	..	..	..	..	2 dr.
Oret. preparat...	..	..	..	..	8 oz.

previously made into a thin paste with water; stir till cold.

—C. & D. DIARY.

[C. C. sends this, but the sample reported on a few weeks ago was quite different.—ED. C. & D.]

Oil of Swallows—I have always sold ol. sambuci viride for this, and believe it is a general practice in Lincolnshire. PHENIX. (48/39)

## INFORMATION WANTED.

The Editor invites, on behalf of inquiring subscribers, postcard replies to the following:—

47/37. Who imports Valentine's meat-juice?

## Next Week.

Monday, April 13.

Society of Chemical Industry (London Section), Burlington House, W., at 8 P.M. Mr. R. W. Sindall on "The Estimation of Moisture in Wood-pulp," and Mr. Watson Smith on "A Study of Comparative Affinities in the Case of certain Salts of Ammonia."

Royal Institution of Great Britain, at 5 P.M. General Monthly Meeting.

Society of Arts, John Street, Adelphi, W.C., at 8 P.M. "Precious Stones," by Professor Henry A. Miers (Cantor Lecture). Subject: the properties which make precious stones esteemed and by which they are recognised.

Tuesday, April 14.

Royal Photographic Society, 12 Hanover Square, W., at 8 P.M.

Royal Institution of Great Britain, at 3 P.M. Professor James Sully on "Child-study and Education."

Wednesday, April 15.

Society of Chemical Industry (Nottingham Section), Derby Mechanics' Institution, at 730 P.M. Mr. John White, F.I.C. (County Analyst for Derbyshire), on "Filtration and Domestic Filters," with exhibition of specimen filters. Mr. F. J. R. Carulla on "The Corrosion of Iron by Tar" and exhibit of specimens.

Western Chemists' Association (of London). Musical and Social Evening, at the Westbourne Restaurant, 1 Craven Road, W., at 830 P.M.

Midland Chemists' Assistants' Association, at Exchange Rooms, Birmingham, at 9 P.M. Discussion on the Shops (Early-closing) Bill and other matters.

Thursday, April 16.

Linnean Society, Burlington House, W., at 8 P.M.

Chemists' Assistants' Association, 103 Great Russell Street, W.C., at 830 P.M. Short papers.

Royal Institution of Great Britain, at 3 P.M. Professor Dewar on "Recent Chemical Progress."

Friday, April 17.

Aberdeen Junior Chemists' Association, at 9.30 P.M. Annual Meeting.

Royal Institution of Great Britain, at 9 P.M. M. G. Lippmann, Membre de l'Institut (France), on "Colour-photography."

Edinburgh Chemists', Assistants', and Apprentices' Association. Annual Business Meeting, at 9.15 P.M.

## Australasian News.

MOST of the following notes are based upon information in the March issue of *The Chemist and Druggist of Australasia* published at Melbourne. Copies of that journal (price 6d. each) may be had from the publisher, 42 Cannon Street, E.C.

FROM JOURNALISM TO DENTISTRY.—Mr. Ernest Blackwell, a well-known journalist, has left the *Sydney Daily Telegraph* and started business as a dentist in Macquarie Street. Mr. Blackwell was one of the reporters who went from Australia with the N.S.W. Soudan contingent.

A NARROW ESCAPE.—Mr. Wm. Langton, son of Mr. Rivers Langton, formerly of London, was recently staying at the little village of Te Aroha, New Zealand, when a fire broke out, completely destroying the hotel and nine shops and dwelling-houses. Mr. Langton's room was on the first floor, and no one could get near him to give the alarm. Fortunately he was aroused by the smoke in time to escape by the windows on to a verandah, and thence into the street.

AN ELEMI SUBSTITUTE.—Dr. Joseph Lauterer, President of the Royal Society of Queensland, has contributed to the "Proceedings" of that body a paper dealing with the resin from the Alexandrian laurel (*Caulophyllum inophyllum*), the gum from the Queensland ebony (*Bauhinia Hookeri*), and the oleo-resin from *Canarium Muelleri*. The latter was examined some years ago, when the tree was discovered on the Johnstone river by Dr. T. L. Bancroft, and was pronounced by Mr. Mar, the Government Analyst, "to resemble elemi in its general chemical characteristics." Since then Mr. Maiden, however, has declared that this oleo-resin and elemi were "neither identical nor allied." Dr. Lauterer's examination leads him to confirm Mr. Mar's statement, and to pronounce the gum a good substitute for elemi.

FOREIGN DIPLOMAS IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA.—The Pharmaceutical Society of Western Australia has opened its gates to pharmacists from the other Australian colonies. Some time ago the original W.A. Pharmacy and Poisons Act, which refused to recognise certificates from any country which did not admit W. Australian diplomas (in other words, from the whole world), was amended by the recognition of certificates of Great Britain, but recognition of colonial certificates was still refused. Now, however, the following regulation has received the assent of the Executive Council:—"The Diploma of Competency as a chemist of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain will be recognised, also the diploma of any Australasian Pharmaceutical Society or Board established by Act of Parliament; always provided that such diploma has been obtained by the passing of the Major examination of such colony." The position now is that anyone who has passed the examination in either of the colonies will be registered in Western Australia without examination. The practical result of this resolution is that about one-fourth of the registered chemists in Australasia will be admissible to Western Australia. Those who have only passed the Modified examination, and those who were registered as in business before the passing of the Act, will be excluded.